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FBIS-EAS-94-115 CONTENTS *15 June 1994*

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INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

U.S. 'Ready' To Submit Sanctions Resolution *[KYODO]* 1

INTER-ASIAN AFFAIRS

ASEAN To Cooperate, Not Compete for Investors *[ANTARA]* 2
Malaysian Minister Speaks at Straits Conference *[Kuala Lumpur International]* 2

NORTHEAST ASIA

Japan

SDPJ Mission Leaves Pyongyang, Returns Home *[KYODO]* 3
Tougher Measures Considered Against DPRK *[YONHAP]* 3
Limit on Cash Hand-Carried to DPRK Studied *[KYODO]* 3
Hata Comments on Discrimination Against Koreans *[KYODO]* 4
Korean Group Demands Apology for Police Raid *[KYODO]* 4
    Police Plan Regret Statement *[KYODO]* 4
DPRK's NPT Pullout Said To Depend on U.S. *[KYODO]* 5
Tokyo Receives Draft of UN Sanctions From U.S. *[KYODO]* 5
    Accepts Sanctions 'in Principle' *[KYODO]* 5
    Proposal 'Close' to Tokyo's Ideas *[KYODO]* 5
Kakizawa Considers Visit to U.S. for Talks *[KYODO]* 5
Working-Level Talks on Procurement Scheduled *[KYODO]* 6
Ministry Distances Itself From U.S. Lawsuit *[KYODO]* 6
Toyota Spends $4.65 Billion for U.S. Auto Parts *[KYODO]* 6
Tokyo, U.S. 'Narrowing Differences' on Autos *[KYODO]* 7
    'Mutual Understanding' Deepened *[KYODO]* 7
U.S. Demand for No Sales Tax Hike Ignored *[KYODO]* 7
Police Recapture 3 Chinese 'Illegal Immigrants' *[KYODO]* 8
Kakizawa on Permanent UNSC Seat With Veto *[KYODO]* 8
Keidanren Mission Arrives in Burma for Visit *[KYODO]* 8
EPA Chief Expresses 'Concerns' About Economy *[KYODO]* 9
Increase in Investment in Public Sector Urged *[KYODO]* 9
Banker's Association Chief Morikawa on Recovery *[KYODO]* 9
Fujii on Economic 'Bright Signs,' Exchange Rate *[KYODO]* 10
Hata: To Reform Economic System 'Drastically' *[KYODO]* 10
Mieno Says Economy 'Appears To Be' Improving *[KYODO]* 11
Hata Advocates Building of Information Highway *[KYODO]* 11
Hata Positive About Self-Service Gas Stations *[KYODO]* 12

North Korea

Kim Il-song Tells Sihanouk DPRK 'Prepared' for War *[AFP]* 12
U.S. Told of Decision To Withdraw From IAEA *[KCNA]* 12
    Radio on Notification to U.S. *[Pyongyang Radio]* 13
Commentary Justifies Withdrawal From IAEA *[Pyongyang Radio]* 13
Reporters Discuss DPRK Withdrawal From IAEA *[Pyongyang Radio]* 14
NODONG SINMUN Questions Partiality of IAEA *[KCNA]* 15
Voice of America Cited on U.S. Sanctions Plans *[KCNA]* 16

NODONG SINMUN Views Christopher-Kozyrev Talks *[KCNA]* 16
Foreign Media Reportedly Criticize U.S. Policy *[KCNA]* 17
Christian Groups Reported To Object to Sanctions *[KCNA]* 17
Atomic Energy Department Letter Distributed at UN *[KCNA]* 17
DPRK Envoy To Thailand Cited on Nuclear Issue *[Tokyo TV]* 17
Former U.S. President Carter Arrives 15 Jun *[KCNA]* 18
    Meets With Foreign Minister *[KCNA]* 18
KCNA Denounces Kim Yong-sam's Remarks to Carter 18
Radio Denounces Introduction of Apache Helicopters *[Pyongyang Radio]* 18
KCNA Reports 9 Jun U.S. 'Frantic War Exercises' 18
WPK Secretary Meets Carnegie Endowment's Harrison *[KCNA]* 19
KCNA Reports Activities of Overseas Koreans 19
ROK 'Military Provocations' Reported in DMZ *[KCNA]* 19
Daily Urges Koreans To Attend National Conference *[KCNA]* 19
Farmers Group Proposes North-South Talks *[KCNA]* 20
South Koreans Praising Kim Chong-il Reported *[KCNA]* 20
Foreign Groups Urge Repatriation of Old POW's *[KCNA]* 21
Daily Criticizes ROK's 'Colonial Dependency' *[KCNA]* 21
Hanminjon Favors Elimination of Nuclear Weapons *[KCNA]* 21
Chonnodae Vows To Join in ROK Railroad Strike *[KCNA]* 22
ROK Subway Trade Union Threatens To Strike *[KCNA]* 22
Jun Resistance Anniversary Commemorated in Seoul *[KCNA]* 22
Radio Criticizes Remarks by Japan's Ozawa *[Pyongyang Radio]* 22
Delegation of Japanese Socialists on Visit 22
    JSDP Leader Meets Hwang Chang-yop *[KCNA]* 22
    Delegation Meets WPK Secretary *[KCNA]* 23
    Further Inter-Party Talks Held *[KCNA]* 23
    JSDP Delivers Gift for Kim Il-song *[KCNA]* 23
Koreans in Japan Denounce Suppression of Chongnyon *[KCNA]* 23
Anti-Korean 'Rampage' by Osaka Police Noted *[KCNA]* 23
Chondoist Group Protests Japanese 'Crackdown' *[KCNA]* 24
Japan's Treatment of Chongnyon Criticized Abroad *[KCNA]* 24
Overseas Pomminnyon Adopts Reunification Resolution *[KCNA]* 24
WPK Secretary Meets Japanese Farmers Delegation *[KCNA]* 25
Resolution on Japan's War Responsibilities Demanded *[KCNA]* 25
Vietnamese Defense Minister, Delegation Visit 25
    O Chin-u Speaks at Banquet *[Pyongyang Radio]* 25
    Holds Talks With Military Leaders *[KCNA]* 26
    Radio Reports Delegations' Meeting *[Pyongyang Radio]* 26
Kim Il-song Greets Yeltsin on National Day *[Pyongyang Radio]* 27
Government To Form Trade Committee With Ukraine *[Pyongyang Radio]* 27
Kim Il-song Sends Greetings Message to OAU *[KCNA]* 27
Nigerian Military Delegation Departs 11 Jun *[Pyongyang Radio]* 27
Delegation Returns From Trip to Africa *[KCNA]* 27
Delegation Returns From Nonaligned Conference *[KCNA]* 27
Kim Il-song's Works Carried by Foreign Papers *[KCNA]* 27
Chinese, Japanese, Swedish Visitors Arrive *[KCNA]* 28
Economic, S&T Protocol Signed With Bulgaria *[KCNA]* 28
Indian, Ghanaian Parties Send Solidarity Messages *[KCNA]* 28
Daily Expresses People's Solidarity With Libya *[KCNA]* 28
Talk Extols Kim Chong-il's Party Leadership *[Pyongyang Radio]* 28
Anniversary of Kim Chong-il Guidance Marked *[KCNA]* 30
Stamps Praising Kim Chong-il's Party Work Issued *[KCNA]* 30
Chang Chol Speaks at Film Week Premiere *[KCNA]* 31
Rice Transplanting Said Successfully Completed *[KCNA]* 31
Soldiers Accelerate Construction of Expressway *[Pyongyang Radio]* 31
Seminar Held by 'Pressmen' in Pyongyang *[KCNA]* 31
Seminar Held in Pyongyang on Literature, Art *[KCNA]* 32
KCNA Highlights Development of Coal Industry 32
KCNA Reports Increase in Salt Production 32

South Korea

Envoy to France Says U.S. Agreed to IAEA Withdrawal *[Paris LIBERATION 15 Jun]* 33
PRC Reportedly Not Consulted on IAEA Withdrawal *[Seoul Radio]* 33
Newspapers Review DPRK's Withdrawal From IAEA *[CHUNGANG ILBO 14 Jun, etc.]* 33
  15 Jun Newspapers Comment *[CHOSON ILBO, etc.]* 34
Prime Minister Discusses Possibility of Sanctions *[Seoul TV]* 36
Government Examining UN Draft Resolution *[Seoul TV]* 37
ROK Pushing for UN Resolution in 2-3 Weeks *[YONHAP]* 37
Premier: No Sign of 'Provocation' by DPRK *[YONHAP]* 37
UN: Panmunjom Tours Suspended for Renovations *[THE KOREA HERALD 15 Jun]* 38
Defense Minister—DPRK Tested Detonators *[Seoul Radio]* 38
KYODO Cited on IAEA Inspection in DPRK *[Seoul Radio]* 38
U.S. Shifts Into 'Top Gear' for Intelligence *[YONHAP]* 38
Group Urges U.S. Not To Foment 'War Atmosphere' *[YONHAP]* 39
DPRK Official Claims U.S. Once Agreed to Pullout *[YONHAP]* 39
Former U.S. President Carter Visits ROK, DPRK 39
  Reportedly Carrying Package Deal Offer *[Seoul Radio]* 39
  Kim Yong-sam, Carter Discuss DPRK *[YONHAP]* 40
  Carter Meets Unification Minister *[Seoul Radio]* 40
  Carter Enters DPRK Via Panmunjom *[YONHAP]* 40
  Further on Carter's Crossover *[YONHAP]* 41
  Carter, Kim Il-song Meet *[Seoul TV]* 41
Chongwadae 'Closely Watching' Carter's Visit *[YONHAP]* 42
Kim Yong-sam Orders Security Briefings *[YONHAP]* 42
Kim Yong-sam Expresses Confidence in Security *[Seoul Radio]* 42
Presidential Office Counters Public Anxiety *[YONHAP]* 43
JCS Chief Cited on Armed Forces Readiness *[Seoul Radio]* 43
Defense Minister on Preparing for 'Provocation' *[YONHAP]* 44
Civil Defense Exercise Conducted Nationwide *[YONHAP]* 44
Government Begins Monitoring Prices of Basic Goods *[YONHAP]* 44
Ruling Party Issues Statement on DPRK Issue *[YONHAP]* 45
Parties Pledge End of 'Political Strife' *[YONHAP]* 45
Newspaper Examines Left-Leaning Movements *[CHUNGANG ILBO 11 Jun]* 46
* Tighter Control of Secret Information Urged *[CHUNGANG ILBO 28 Jan]* 47

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Mahathir Views Sabah Parties, Coalition *[NEW STRAITS TIMES 11 Jun]* 49
Official: Arms Seized From SRV Fishermen *[UTUSAN MALAYSIA 19 May]* 49
Minister Asks UNEP To Help Curb Dumping *[BERNAMA]* 50

Cambodia

Peace Talks Adjourn With No Progress *[AFP]* 50
Sihanouk Says Return to Power Improbable *[AKP]* 51
Participants at Roundtable Talks Listed *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 51

Indonesia

Daily Views Failure of Trade Talks with U.S. *[Jakarta Radio]* 52
Energy Minister Views OPEC Strategy *[ANTARA]* 52
House Criticizes New Investment Policy *[THE INDONESIA TIMES 4 Jun]* 52
Editorial: Foreign Investment in Local Media *[THE INDONESIA TIMES 6 Jun]* 53
Chinese Businessmen Launch Image Drive *[BUSINESS TIMES 14 Jun]* 54

Philippines

Ramos Views Korean Crisis, PRC Nuclear Test *[Quezon City Radio-TV]* 54
Finance Secretary Downplays Inflation Rate *[PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER 11 Jun]* 55

Thailand

Editorial Scorns U.S. 'Machismo' on DPRK *[THE NATION 15 Jun]* 56
* Khmer Rouge Zone Relations With Thais Viewed *[BANGKOK POST 17 May]* 56
Official Reports on ASEAN Meeting *[Radio VOFA]* 57
Vietnam Seen as 'Potential Competitor' *[THE NATION 15 Jun]* 58
Drug Chief Reviews Narcotics Problem *[THE NATION 15 Jun]* 59

Vietnam

'Deep Concern' Over DPRK Nuclear Crisis *[Hanoi Radio]* 59
Military Delegation Leaves for DPRK Visit *[VNA]* 60
Further on Vo Van Kiet's Visit in Kazakhstan 60
    Talks With Prime Minister *[VNA]* 60
    Joint Statement Signed *[VNA]* 60
    Prime Minister Hosts Banquet *[VNA]* 60
Agreement on Education Signed With Australia *[Melbourne International]* 61
Circular on Export Procedure Changes Issued *[Hanoi Radio]* 61
Deputy Prime Minister Meets Head of IFC *[VNA]* 61
World Bank Grants Agriculture Loan *[Hanoi International]* 61
Ministry, UNHCR Review Repatriation Program *[Hanoi Radio]* 61
Reportage on National Assembly Proceedings 62
    Voters Present Views, Last Part *[Hanoi Radio]* 62
    Discuss Socioeconomic Plan *[Hanoi Radio]* 64
    Communique No. 14 Issued *[Hanoi Radio]* 64
    15 Jun Morning Activities *[Hanoi Radio]* 65
* Training, Events in Military Reviewed *[TAP CHI QUOC PHONG TOAN DAN Mar]* 66
* Importance of Ha Tay's National Defense Work *[TAP CHI QUOC PHONG TOAN DAN Mar]* 68
* TCCS on Handling 'Hot Spots' in Thanh Hoa *[TAP CHI CONG SAN Mar]* 71
Party Members Expelled for Poor Conduct *[Hanoi Radio]* 74
Energy Ministry Updates Powerline Status *[Hanoi Radio]* 74

AUSTRALASIA

Australia

Foreign Minister Comments on North Korea 75
    Urges UN To Leave Way Open *[Melbourne International]* 75
    Urges World To Be Careful *[Melbourne International]* 75
Employment Minister Begins Asian Tour *[Melbourne International]* 75
New Data Shows Growth in Trade With Asia *[AFP]* 75

U.S. 'Ready' To Submit Sanctions Resolution

OW1506103894 Tokyo KYODO in English 0254 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Text] New York, June 14 KYODO—The United States on Tuesday [14 June] appeared ready to submit a graduated sanctions resolution to the UN Security Council over North Korea's continued rejection of demands for inspections of its nuclear facilities, UN diplomatic sources said.

The sources said the initial phase of sanctions will include a freeze of UN Development aid for North Korea's free economic and trade zone project in the Tumen river basin along with a halt on economic, scientific and cultural assistance. If North Korea continues to refuse to cooperate with the inspections required under the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT), a second phase of sanctions would be imposed. These would include an embargo on military exports to Pyongyang, a freeze on North Korean foreign assets, and a ban on the flow of hard currency into North Korea from overseas, the sources said. A third phase of sanctions would include a comprehensive trade embargo and travel ban on North Korea, the sources suggested.

Meanwhile, South Korea's YONHAP NEWS AGENCY reported North Korea's envoy to the United Nations Pak Kil-yon has warned that North Korea will leave the NPT if sanctions are imposed on Pyongyang. North Korea threatened to pull out of the NPT in March 1993 over demands that it grant inspectors access to two undeclared nuclear sites. It later suspended its withdrawal decision after high-level walks with the U.S. Pak met with representatives of the 10 nonpermanent members of the Security Council on Tuesday and informed them that North Korea has formally notified the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) of its decision to withdraw from the monitoring agency. Pak also acknowledged that two IAEA inspectors are still in North Korea. The U.S. State Department on Tuesday confirmed that it has received North Korea's notification that it was pulling out of the agency.

YONHAP, quoting Pak, reported Pyongyang will not allow any further IAEA inspections since it has withdrawn from the agency, although the nuclear checks are still required under the NPT. Pak said a resolution to the nuclear stalemate depends on the U.S., insisting that Washington should change its attitude and return to negotiations, according to YONHAP.

UN Spokesman Joe Sills said North Korea is still subject to inspection provisions of the NPT despite its withdrawal from the IAEA. According to Sills, North Korea is the third nation to have left the IAEA, following Honduras and Nicaragua. Nicaragua later rejoined the IAEA. There are 164 signatory nations to the NPT, and 121 members in the IAEA, Sills said.

U.S. Government officials said the two IAEA inspectors in North Korea were continuing with their activities of monitoring and adjusting IAEA observation equipment at North Korean nuclear facilities. The officials said that it is essential that the inspectors carry out their activities beyond just being in North Korea. They reiterated their concern that the situation could become worse if the inspectors are asked to leave. dd

ASEAN To Cooperate, Not Compete for Investors

BK1306141694 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1011 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Nusa Dua (Bali), Jun 13 (OANA-ANTARA)—State Minister for the Mobilization of Investment Funds who is also chairman of the Coordinating Board for Investment (BKPM) Sanyoto Sastrowardoyo noted here on Monday the six ASEAN member countries will not compete each other in inviting foreign investors.

"On the contrary, they will even cooperate either in inviting foreign investors or investment among the ASEAN member countries," he told the press after inaugurating the ASEAN working group on the promotion of foreign direct investment here on Monday.

He expressed the hope that the meeting would yield a mechanism for foreign investment among the ASEAN member countries aside from the foreign investors.

"We need a certain promotion campaign among the ASEAN member countries in a bid to invite foreign investment since the competition is getting tougher," he said.

He reminded the ASEAN countries on the need for them to anticipate the development of the world economy which tends to the regional groups such as North America Free Trade Area (NAFTA), the Unification of the Europe, the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) and ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA).

"We should also anticipate the implementation of the General Agreement of Tariff and Trade (GATT) agreed last April," he said.

Queried about the ASEAN's view on the government regulation No. 20/1994 which provide greater access for foreign capital in company ownership, geographical spread and sectoral business lines, he said that ASEAN welcomed the economic deregulation package.

"The package can not be avoided, meaning that Indonesia should issue such a package, otherwise it will be left behind," he said.

Indonesia should increase its competitiveness in the current globalisation era if it wants to be survived, he said.

"The government regulation is one of our ways in consolidating with others to attract more foreign investors," he added.

Speaking on the future composition of foreign investment, he said that Japan stood at the first position followed by Taiwan replacing Hong Kong which has been in the second position since 1967 to May 1994.

He attributed to the impressive performance of Taiwan to the country's aggressive efforts to improve investment in Indonesia by among others sending business leaders who accompanied their president during his visit here recently.

He also said that Taiwan's improved investment climate was also as a result of "go south action programme" which promoted investment to its neighboring countries in the south such as Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines.

Deputy Chairman for Foreign Investment Affairs at the BKPM Sugihono Kadarisman said that a number of developed countries still exerted non-economic pressures such as human rights issues and the most favoured nations (MFN).

Kadarisman said that the country will discuss a strategy to counter such pressures confronting Indonesia's serious efforts to promote foreign investment.

Some 50 participants from ASEAN member countries are attending the two-day meeting.

Malaysian Minister Speaks at Straits Conference

BK1406100794 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0800 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Malaysia has reiterated the need for appropriate and acceptable mechanisms to relieve coastal states of the onerous responsibility and burden of keeping the Straits of Malacca safe.

Foreign Minister Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said it is patently unfair to expect the littoral states to use national funds to underwrite what is, by and large, an international responsibility. He adds, however, that the littoral states, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, and Thailand do not wish to adopt any unilateral decision regarding the management of the strait, one of the busiest waterways in the world.

He was delivering a keynote address at an international conference on the Straits of Malacca organized by the Malaysian Institute of Maritime Affairs in Kuala Lumpur. The two-day inaugural conference attended by about 180 participants will discuss matters pertaining to the (?risk) management, navigational, and environmental problems of the strait.

Datuk Abdullah said there was a need for cooperation to secure a safer navigation and a cleaner strait regime because many of the potential risks and problems associated with the strait were the results of externalities. The problems are created by ships in transit as well as multiple use of the waterway. He pointed out that the three states are facing the situation where the international shipping community use the strait on a free of charge basis while the littoral states have to bear the financial burden to keep the strait clean and safe.

Japan

SDPJ Mission Leaves Pyongyang, Returns Home

OW1406150294 Tokyo KYODO in English 1453 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 14 KYODO—A three-member delegation of the Social Democratic Party (SDP) [Social Democratic Party of Japan (SDPJ)] to North Korea returned to Japan Tuesday [14 June] night from a four-day visit to Pyongyang.

During its stay in Pyongyang, the delegation, led by House of Representatives member Kozo Watanabe of the second largest opposition party, exchanged views over the suspected nuclear arms development program with officials of the North Korea's workers' party.

North Korea told the delegation that the country is not trying to develop nuclear weapons, according to SDP officials.

The SDP delegation told the North Korean side that the SDP wants a peaceful settlement of the nuclear issue through talks.

Tougher Measures Considered Against DPRK

SK1506014694 Seoul YONHAP in English 0123 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 15 (YONHAP)—In the wake of North Korea's abrupt decision to quit the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), hawkish voices are growing louder in the Japanese Government calling for the United Nations Security Council [UNSC] to adopt a resolution on immediate, rather than gradual, economic sanctions against North Korea, a senior Foreign Ministry official said Wednesday.

The official said, "Japan had demanded that the UNSC adopt a warning resolution first before monitoring the situation and passing a sanctions resolution against North Korea. But now that North Korea has withdrawn from the IAEA, Japan does not have any ground for proposing milder and gradual steps by the international community."

At a recent meeting with South Korea and the United States, Japan had proposed that the Security Council adopt a warning resolution first before taking the second step of imposing relatively mild economic sanctions. Under this proposal, if North Korea did not accept IAEA inspections despite the U.N. measures, the council would take strong action including suspension of trade and remittances from Koreans residing in Japan.

But with the Stalinist state's withdrawal from the IAEA, the Security Council may adopt a strong sanctions resolution from the outset that includes suspension of remittances by pro-Pyongyang Koreans in Japan to North Korea, the official said.

Meanwhile, the Japanese Government may send Foreign Minister Koji Kakizawa to the United States late this month to discuss future measures after a U.N. resolution is adopted, as the tension on the Korean peninsula continues to rise.

Japanese Prime Minister Tsutomu Hata talked with U.S. President Bill Clinton over the telephone Tuesday, promising that Japan will cooperate with the Security Council within the limits of its Constitution if sanctions are slapped on North Korea.

Limit on Cash Hand-Carried to DPRK Studied

OW1506121094 Tokyo KYODO in English 1149 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 15 KYODO—Japan is considering lowering the limit on the amount of yen travelers to North Korea may carry if the United Nations imposes sanctions against the North over its refusal to allow inspections of its suspect nuclear program, officials said Wednesday [15 June].

The Foreign Exchange Law sets the limit of the amount of yen a traveler can carry abroad at 5 million yen, regardless of their destination, but Finance Ministry officials said North Korea could be an exception.

"It's possible (to lower the ceiling on yen to be carried by travelers to North Korea) with an interpretation of the law. It could only be (done) with a notice by the finance minister," said an official at the ministry's International Finance Bureau.

"We are afraid of being told by the United States and others that the current ceiling hampers the effect of economic sanctions," the official said on condition of anonymity.

But an official at the ministry's Customs and Tariff Bureau acknowledged that people going to North Korea via third countries, such as China, could thwart the special measure.

Some ministry officials said the impact of lowering such a ceiling will be limited because customs officials estimate the amount of yen a traveler to North Korea carries at about 200,000 to 300,000 yen.

Most travelers from Japan to North Korea are among some 250,000 North Koreans living in Japan, many of whom are Japan-born descendants of forced laborers brought over when the Korean peninsula was under Japanese rule between the early 1900s and 1945.

The U.S. has asked Japan to stop the remittance of any money to North Korea.

Although it is not known how much money is actually sent to North Korea from Japan, trade and banking sources estimate the sum at 60 billion yen a year, including trade bills.

In a related development, Japanese commercial banks have stopped remitting U.S. dollars to North Korea, although they have not halted sending cash in other currencies. Bankers say the move is in line with a U.S. law that prohibits U.S. banks from remitting dollars to North Korea.

Hata Comments on Discrimination Against Koreans

OW1406090794 Tokyo KYODO in English 0857 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 14 KYODO—Prime Minister Tsutomu Hata said Tuesday [14 June] the government will deal with discrimination against Koreans living in Japan in the wake of reported assaults on students going to pro-Pyongyang schools. "That (Korean) children have been hurt is intolerable," Hata told a session of the House of Councilors Budget Committee. Hata said he will urge all ministries and agencies to think about appeals to stop such racial discrimination.

In recent weeks there have been frequent reports of Korean students being subjected to abusive language by Japanese and in some cases of the ethnic uniforms of female Korean students even being ripped to shreds. Police suspect that there must be a sense of discrimination against pro-Pyongyang Koreans behind the scenes amid the international tension over North Korea's suspected nuclear arms development program.

National Public Safety Commission Chief Hajime Ishii and Justice Minister Hiroshi Nakai told the same committee session that the situation is "regrettable," adding that the government will intensify investigations and improve measures to protect foreigners' human rights.

Korean Group Demands Apology for Police Raid

OW1406092894 Tokyo KYODO in English 0849 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Sapporo, June 14 KYODO—A pro-Pyongyang group of Korean residents demanded Tuesday [12 June] that police apologize for investigating a 24-year-old member of the group on unsubstantiated suspicion of violating a stimulant drug control law.

The Committee for the Protection of the Rights of Koreans in Hokkaido, part of the Hokkaido Chapter of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyun), made the demand at a press conference, claiming the investigation was illegal. The accusation followed a recent mistaken raid on the office of another Chongnyun chapter and related facilities in Kyoto, where local police said earlier Tuesday it will issue a statement expressing regret over the incident.

The committee said officers from the Chuo police station in Sapporo raided the home of the unidentified Korean man, a company executive in the city, on May 31 and forced him to give a urine sample for testing, but could find no evidence he had violated the law. The committee discovered the result of the test when it asked the police about the investigation June 2. The man, whose nationality is South Korean but who belongs to the pro-Pyongyang group, told the committee he suffered mental stress as a result of the investigation and his business had also suffered, the committee said. The police gave the man no explanation either before or after the investigation, it said.

Chae Hong-chol, head of the International Division of Chongnyun's Hokkaido Chapter, told the press conference he feels the police are hostile to Koreans and should have been more cautious considering the recent controversial raids on Chongnyun offices in Osaka and Kyoto.

Toshiaki Igarashi, deputy head of the police station, said the raid was legal because it was done with the authorization of the court.

Police Plan Regret Statement

OW1406071494 Tokyo KYODO in English 0702 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Kyoto, June 14 KYODO—The Kyoto Prefectural Police Department announced Tuesday [14 June] it will soon issue a statement expressing regret over its mistaken raid earlier this month on the offices of a pro-Pyongyang group of Korean residents in the prefecture.

The Kyoto police said it will present the document to the Kyoto Chapter of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyun) and other Chongnyun-related groups raided on unjustified suspicion of violating the National Land Utilization Law.

The statement will be issued under the name of Hisao Asakura, head of the crime prevention department of the prefectural police, officials said. It will repeat the police's view on the raid, saying that false information obtained from the Kyoto municipal government is to blame for the mistake, but that the Kyoto police regret the trouble given to the Chongnyun groups, they said. However, Chongnyun demands the Kyoto police apologize, not just regret.

Police searched 27 Chongnyun-related sites after it was tipped by the Kyoto City Government that the group contravened the law obliging purchasers of land to report the deal to authorities. More than eight hours after the raid, the city found evidence that the group had reported the purchase of a 43,000-square-meter plot of land it obtained to relocate its school.

The Kyoto police decided to issue the statement after the National Police Agency (NPA) instructed it to convey the feeling of regret clearly, officials said. The NPA also issued a memorandum Tuesday to all prefectural police departments in connection with the mistaken raid, asking the heads of the prefectural police forces to be cautious in investigations and keep in mind "the rare case" of the raid in Kyoto.

DPRK's NPT Pullout Said To Depend on U.S.

OW1506160094 Tokyo KYODO in English 1511 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 15 KYODO—North Korea's possible withdrawal from the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) depends on moves taken by the United States, a senior official of Pyongyang's ruling party was quoted as saying Wednesday.

Kim Yong-gon [name as received], deputy head of the Korean Workers Party's International Department, brushed aside allegations of North Korea's nuclear arms development during a meeting in Pyongyang with two visiting House of Representatives members of the main opposition Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), LDP officials said. Kim called the alleged nuclear arms development a fabrication and a plot aimed at isolating North Korea from the international community, the officials said, quoting reports received from the two, including former Defense Agency Chief Taku Yamasaki.

In response to the LDP members' call for North Korea to stay in the NPT regime, Kim said its withdrawal "depends on what action the U.S. will take," the officials said. He also said Pyongyang "will counter dialogue with dialogue, sanctions with reprisals, and war with war," they added.

Tokyo Receives Draft of UN Sanctions From U.S.

OW1506125894 Tokyo KYODO in English 1250 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 15 KYODO—Japan has received a draft resolution the United States plans to submit to the UN Security council to impose sanctions on North Korea for its suspected nuclear arms development program, a chief government spokesman said Wednesday.

The proposed sanctions "are in no way easygoing," Chief Cabinet Secretary Hiroshi Kumagai said without elaboration.

Accepts Sanctions 'in Principle'

OW1506130594 Tokyo KYODO in English 1259 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 15 KYODO—Foreign Minister Koji Kakizawa said Wednesday Japan will accept in principle draft sanctions against North Korea mapped out by the United States.

The proposed sanctions are on the whole close to what Japan thinks proper to cope with the nuclear crisis, Kakizawa said after an emergency meeting of government leaders called to discuss the issue.

The U.S. plans to propose a sanctions resolution to the UN Security Council over the nuclear standoff triggered by North Korea's refusal to allow international inspections of its suspected nuclear arms development program.

Proposal 'Close' to Tokyo's Ideas

OW1506153894 Tokyo KYODO in English 1523 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 15 KYODO—Japan will inform the United States that it will accept in principle its draft sanctions against North Korea to be presented to the U.N. Security Council over the nuclear crisis, government officials said.

"On the whole, (the proposed sanctions) are close to what Japan thinks proper, so we will in principle accept them," Foreign Minister Koji Kakizawa told reporters after attending an emergency meeting of government leaders on the nuclear standoff.

The United States plans to propose a sanctions resolution to the Security Council over the nuclear standoff triggered by North Korea's refusal to allow International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) checks of its suspected nuclear arms development program.

Japanese U.N. Ambassador Hisashi Owada will inform his U.S. counterpart of Japan's acceptance of the draft early Thursday [16 June], the officials said.

They declined to disclose, however, if the draft sanctions would include an order to halt bank remittances of cash from pro-Pyongyang Koreans living in Japan to North Korea. Chief Cabinet Secretary Hiroshi Kumagai only said the sanctions would "not be easy" for North Korea.

Prime Minister Tsutomu Hata discussed the nuclear crisis with Kakizawa, Kumagai and senior foreign ministry officers in the meeting at his official residence. In the meeting, Hata said there are three principles on which Japan should act in dealing with the sanctions, the officials said. These are imposing sanctions step by step as a means of maintaining dialogue with the North, keeping close contact with the U.S., South Korea and other permanent Security Council members, and doing whatever is possible within the framework of the Constitution.

Also present at the emergency talks were Vice Foreign Minister Kunihiko Saito and the ministry's director-general of the Foreign Policy Bureau, Shunji Yanai. The Foreign Ministry officials were quoted as saying there is a feeling even among the 10 nonpermanent Security Council members that the nuclear issue cannot be left as it is.

The Security Council consists of five permanent members—Britain, China, France, Russia and the U.S.—as well as the 10 nonpermanent members.

Kakizawa Considers Visit to U.S. for Talks

OW1506035994 Tokyo KYODO in English 0325 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 15 KYODO—Foreign Minister Koji Kakizawa may visit the United States possibly later this month or early July for talks with U.S. officials, government sources said Wednesday [15 June].

Kakizawa is considering making the trip after the budget for fiscal 1994 passes the Diet around June 23 or 24, the sources said.

He is expected to meet Secretary of State Warren Christopher and U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor.

Kantor has reportedly been urging Kakizawa to visit the U.S. to promote talks on bilateral trade framework negotiations.

Japan and the U.S. agreed last month to resume the trade framework talks, which broke down in February when President Bill Clinton and then Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa met in Washington.

The two countries have been holding working-level talks since then and are scheduled to hold vice ministerial talks in Tokyo on June 22 and 23 between Deputy U.S. Trade Representative Charlene Barshefsky and Deputy Foreign Minister Sadayuki Hayashi.

Kakizawa is also likely to discuss North Korea's alleged nuclear development with Christopher along with measures to be taken by the United Nations, the sources said.

Working-Level Talks on Procurement Scheduled

OW1506075194 Tokyo KYODO in English 0725 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 15 KYODO—Japan and the United States will hold working group meetings on bilateral trade "Framework" talks in Tokyo later this week and next week to discuss government procurement areas, the Foreign Ministry announced Wednesday [15 June].

The working group meeting on telecommunications equipment will be held Thursday and Friday, and the meeting on medical equipment will be held June 22 and 23, both in Tokyo, the ministry said.

Ministry sources have said vice ministerial-level meetings on the Framework talks between Deputy U.S. Trade Representative Charlene Barshefsky and Deputy Foreign Minister Sadayuki Hayashi will be held June 22 and 23 in Tokyo.

Barshefsky is expected to arrive in Japan on June 21, the sources said.

Japan and the U.S. agreed in May to restart the Framework talks after reaching common ground on the definition of objective criteria that it would be both quantitative and qualitative yardsticks instead of numerical targets for each of the negotiation sectors.

Government procurement of medical and telecommunications equipment is one of the three priority areas along with automobile and auto parts, and insurance business.

Ministry Distances Itself From U.S. Lawsuit

OW1406122094 Tokyo KYODO in English 1153 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 14 KYODO—The Construction Ministry has told construction companies to handle on their own an expected U.S. lawsuit over allegedly inflated work costs on a U.S. naval base due to bid-rigging, ministry sources said Tuesday [14 June].

In a move to distance itself from a potentially costly bilateral row, the ministry sent a document to a construction industry organization, saying each company is responsible for coping with the suit, which it says is a civil case, according to its own judgment.

The document was dated June 6 and sent to the Japan Federation of Construction Contractors as a simple liaison. The document is in effect designed to make clear to the United States that the ministry has nothing to do with the case, a senior ministry official said. "We drew up the document to remove the misunderstanding within the U.S. Government that the ministry is behind the alleged bid-rigging and the companies' handling of the issue," the official said on the condition of anonymity. "The industry should also supply clear accounts on the case for an accurate understanding by the U.S.," he said.

The U.S. Government is seeking a total of 1.1 billion yen in compensation from some 70 Japanese construction companies for the alleged overcharge for work done at the base at Atsugi near Tokyo.

Rampant alleged collusion to rig bids in construction contracts, a practice called "dango," has been criticized by the U.S. as a major obstacle to the U.S. companies' entry into the Japanese construction market. The U.S. is expected to start filing suits in autumn after the new U.S. fiscal year begins. U.S. officials recently visited Japan to seek talks with the companies involved, but many of them refused meetings, the officials said. Washington wrongly views the cold shoulder as a move orchestrated by the ministry, they said. The ministry stressed in the document that it has given no instructions or advice to the companies concerning the case.

Toyota Spends $4.65 Billion for U.S. Auto Parts

OW1406105294 Tokyo KYODO in English 1012 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Nagoya, June 14 KYODO—Toyota Motor Corp. purchased 4.65 billion dollars worth of automobile parts and materials from U.S. suppliers during fiscal 1993, up 5 percent from the year before, company officials said Tuesday [14 June].

At an annual meeting in San Francisco of North American parts suppliers exporting to Japan, Toyota's Director, Noritaka Shimizu said spending on U.S. parts has grown over four times from 1.1 billion dollars in 1988, according to the officials.

During fiscal 1993, Toyota's U.S. branches bought 3.51 billion dollars worth of American parts, while Japan's operations spent 1.14 billion dollars. Toyota expects purchases for fiscal 1994 will total 5.28 billion dollars, the officials said.

Toyota says its increase of U.S. parts suppliers from 415 in March 1993 to 448 in March 1994 is one reason for the increase in purchases, as well as a new factory that opened in March at Toyota motor manufacturing, U.S.A. Inc. located in Kentucky.

Tokyo, U.S. 'Narrowing Differences' on Autos

OW1406145094 Tokyo KYODO in English 1446 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 14 KYODO—Japan and the United States may hold subcabinet-level talks next week to find ways to improve American access to Japan's auto and auto parts markets, a senior Trade Ministry official said Tuesday [14 June].

The two parties are narrowing differences as much as possible during the current ongoing working-level auto trade talks, said the official at the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI), who declined to be named.

But difficult issues will be left to the next stage of talks which may be held next week at the earliest between Sozaburo Okamatsu, MITI vice chief for international affairs, and Jeffrey Garten, U.S. commerce undersecretary for international trade, the official said, indicating that the controversial issue of how to set "objective criteria" in gauging openness of Japan's auto markets will be suspended.

Japan and the U.S. held working-level talks in Tokyo on Monday and Tuesday and will continue into an unscheduled third day Wednesday.

The senior MITI official said the two countries next week will resume talks designed to expand foreign access to Japan's glass market, a topic newly added to the priority fields of the trade "framework" negotiations.

'Mutual Understanding' Deepened

OW1506105794 Tokyo KYODO in English 1047 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 15 KYODO—Japan and the United States ended three days of working-level auto trade talks in Tokyo Wednesday [15 June] apparently without reaching consensus on setting "objective criteria" as an instrument to gauge openness of Japan's auto market.

"Mutual understanding on differences has been deepened," an official at the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) told a press conference, adding the atmosphere at the talks was "cordial."

The officials of the two countries met Monday and Tuesday and then extended their talks for a third day Wednesday, to discuss measures to improve the U.S. access to the Japanese auto market and criteria to evaluate implementation of the measures, the MITI official said.

"The Japanese side fully understands the U.S. position, including a proposal on the most critical issue," the official said.

But the official declined to disclose further details of the talks, saying both parties agreed to keep quiet.

He said issues that have yet to be settled during the latest talks will be put on hold until the next round of working-level talks, expected to be held in Washington in the second half of next week.

The latest working-level gathering followed last week's subcabinet-level meeting in Tokyo where both parties failed to bridge difference over objective criteria, the thorniest issue under the bilateral trade "Framework" talks.

U.S. Demand for No Sales Tax Hike Ignored

OW1506135494 Tokyo KYODO in English 1311 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 15 KYODO—Japan will not change its policy on the planned tax reform in line with a reportedly renewed U.S. demand for freezing a sales tax hike until the economy recovers, Finance Minister Hirohisa Fujii said Wednesday [15 June].

Fujii, speaking at a press meeting, was referring to a report that U.S. Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen made a renewed request in a letter.

"The basic direction remains unchanged," he said, noting the government and ruling parties are at the "final stage" of deciding on the tax reform.

Japan promised in its March market-opening package to detail the tax reform by the end of this month and make it into law by the year-end. This came after criticism from the U.S. over a 6.2 trillion yen tax cut adopted in February for the current year only.

The aim is to implement multi-year tax cuts, and a consumption tax hike not only to offset the tax cuts but also to secure funds for welfare in the aging society in the 21st century.

Fujii neither denied nor confirmed the existence of the letter, saying he is in constant contact with the U.S. side to exchange views.

The two sides have agreed not to comment on these regular talks, he added.

According to the letter reported by a Japanese daily, Bentsen called for greater income tax cuts and freezing of the tax hike until the Japanese economy recovers clearly.

The letter dated Tuesday came on the same day as the government's tax commission prepared the basis of its report due out next week.

The report will include a three-year gap between tax cuts and hike, and a net revenue surplus.

Pressed by reporters about the prospect of winning U.S. support, Fujii refrained from commenting directly.

The tax issue is a domestic issue but Japan is working on it from the standpoint of contributing to the world economy as well to coordinate policy with other leading nations, he said.

"There are some compromises involved, and we must make efforts to win understanding," he said.

Police Recapture 3 Chinese 'Illegal Immigrants'

OW1406081294 Tokyo KYODO in English 0747 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Fukuoka, June 14 KYODO—Police Tuesday [14 June] recaptured and took into custody three more Chinese suspected of being illegal immigrants who fled the Fukuoka Immigration Bureau on Sunday.

The three are among the 26 Chinese minors who fled the bureau en masse, of whom a total of 22 have been recaptured, police said. The 26, including two girls, were taken into custody on may 18 after they were found hiding in a warehouse in Fukuoka, western Japan, with more than 100 adult Chinese, who were all arrested on suspicion of illegally entering Japan.

The immigration officials also found 22,000 yen in cash hidden in a cigarette box left on a shelf in one of the detention center rooms. The officials suspect the money is what is left of the 30,000 yen which one of the Chinese took when fleeing the center.

A senior immigration official earlier said the escape began Sunday evening when one of the Chinese asked for hot water. When a bureau official opened the door, 10 Chinese minors jumped on him and two other immigration officials, handcuffed them and stole about 30,000 yen from a drawer before escaping, the official said.

Kakizawa on Permanent UNSC Seat With Veto

OW1506111994 Tokyo KYODO in English 1049 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 15 KYODO—Foreign minister Koji Kakizawa reiterated hope Wednesday [15 June] that Japan will become a permanent member with veto power on the UN Security Council.

"When a question arises and Japan cannot accept it at any cost, in order to reject it with all its might, it should be no problem for Japan to be a permanent member with veto," Kakizawa said in answer to questions at a House of Councillors Budget Committee session.

The minister said Japan should act to reflect views of the Asian region and small countries if it wins permanent membership with veto power.

Japan and Germany are now the only likely candidates for permanent seats should the Security Council expand the number from the current five, he said.

The council now groups Britain, China, France, Russia and the United States, which have veto power as the major victor nations of World War II, and 10 nonpermanent members selected from UN member nations for two-year terms.

Other countries including Brazil, Egypt, India and Nigeria have been named as candidates, but they have failed to win majority support among UN members, the minister said.

Earlier this month, Hisashi Owada, Japanese ambassador to the UN, asked a UN panel to discuss reorganization of the Security Council given Japan's bid for a permanent seat, but he did not mention veto.

Keidanren Mission Arrives in Burma for Visit

OW1506111194 Tokyo KYODO in English 1057 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Text] Yangon [Rangoon], June 15 KYODO—A large Japanese economic delegation arrived in Yangon Wednesday [15 June] for talks with Myanmarese [Burmese] leaders on promotion of bilateral trade and Japanese investment.

The 50-member delegation led by Kazuo Haruna, chairman of Marubeni Corp., represents the powerful Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren). Haruna is vice chairman of the federation.

During a four-day visit, the mission will confer with Prime Minister Gen. Than Shwe and other government and business leaders on ways for Japan to help promote the country's transition to a market economy, mission members said.

The mission members will also discuss Japan's investment in Myanmar and expansion of bilateral trade, they said.

It is the first visit to Myanmar by a large-scale Japanese economic delegation since the 1988 military coup and suppression of a democratic movement.

The mission includes senior officials of major Japanese corporations, including general trading firms, banks, department stores and heavy machinery makers.

The delegation was welcomed upon arrival by Myanmar officials led by Brig. Gen. David Abel, minister for national planning and economic development.

EPA Chief Expresses 'Concerns' About Economy

OW1406032994 Tokyo KYODO in English 0255 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 14 KYODO—Japan's chief economic planner said Tuesday [14 Jun] he is not convinced the country's economy is rebounding.

Yoshio Terasawa, director general of the Economic Planning Agency (EPA), distanced himself from bank of Japan Governor Yasushi Mieno, who said Monday the economy has moved "one step toward a recovery."

"I cannot confidently say the economy has entered a recovery phase, although I do feel much better about it," Terasawa said at a press conference after a morning cabinet meeting.

He said he will wait before declaring an economic recovery, citing capital spending and foreign exchange rates as his main concerns.

"My concerns will dissapear if capital spending firms up," Teresawa said.

Increase in Investment in Public Sector Urged

OW1406100794 Tokyo KYODO in English 0946 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 14 KYODO—The government should increase its investment in public-sector construction projects by an average 7.1 percent every year through fiscal 2000 to maintain an annual economic growth rate of 2 to 3.5 percent until 2010, a government study group said Tuesday [14 June].

The group, formed by the Construction Ministry to estimate mid- and long-term construction investment by the public sector, said that spending by the private sector on building plants, offices and shops will remain weak until at least fiscal 2000.

Private-sector firms are taking time to adjust inventories accumulated during the "bubble economy" era of the late 1980's, it said, adding public-sector investment will be a key factor to sustain Japan's economic growth. It said the 7.1 percent desired increase is calculated based on an assumption that Japan wants to maintain an annual 3 to 3.5 percent economic growth in real terms through the 2000 business year, which ends March 2001.

Should Japan want to maintain the economic growth for 10 years from the 2001 business year at a pace between 2.6 and 2.9 percent, the government will find it necessary to increase its construction investment by an average 2.7 percent every year, the group added. The rate can be lower than for earlier years because private-sector investment will have recovered by then, it said. If the government increased such investment at lower paces, the economic growth target will not be sustainable, the group added.

With public-sector spending on construction projects boosted to the recommended rates in those periods, the scale of Japan's construction market, including housing, private-sector business facilities and public-sector construction projects, will reach about 870 trillion yen for the decade through the 2000 business year. The scale will then reach to about 1,180 trillion yen for the next decade, it said.

Banker's Association Chief Morikawa on Recovery

OW1406082394 Tokyo KYODO in English 0759 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 14 KYODO—The Japanese economy is expected to start recovering from around summer if recent positive signs continue to spread and absorb such prevailing concerns as the yen's rise, a banking industry leader said Tuesday [14 June]. "If things go smoothly, I expect an economic recovery will become clear from around summer," Toshio Morikawa, chairman of the Federation of Bankers Associations of Japan, told a regular news conference.

Morikawa joined Bank of Japan Governor Yasushi Mieno and government leaders in painting a brighter picture of the economy following last Friday's release of the central bank's quarterly "Tankan" business sentiment survey for May. The survey showed improved sentiment on a broad front for the first time in five years.

"The Tankan indicated that the economy is heading toward improvement," Morikawa said. Also echoing comments by Mieno and government leaders, however, Morikawa remained cautious about declaring the economy has hit bottom. "Both positive and negative factors still exist," he said, particularly citing such risks as the yen's rise, tough labor conditions, and sluggish capital investment.

As upcoming positive factors, Morikawa said consumers will receive at the end of the month the first of two payments from the 5.5 trillion yen in income tax cuts, and that Diet passage of the fiscal 1994 budget has come into sight. Regarding labor problems, Morikawa, expressing his view as president of Sumitomo Bank, indicated his opposition to the idea of reducing starting salaries to boost recruitment, an idea proposed last week by Takeshi Nagano, president of the Japan Federation of Employers Associations (Nikkeiren). "It is difficult for companies to increase recruitment when they are restructuring," he said, noting that his bank intends to cut back hiring of new graduates next spring as part of a plan to reduce the overall workforce. Management has already presented the plan to the labor union, he said.

Asked about the direction of interest rates, Morikawa said both short- and long-term rates will remain stable at low levels for the time being as the economy is not yet recovering. Commenting on a reported plan by the finance ministry to deregulate private housing loans, Morikawa said deregulation will help "improve user convenience," welcoming the plan and brushing aside user concerns that rates will be set higher. He said that banks are expected to develop new services to meet demand, such as loans with fixed rates amid the current low-rate trend.

The ministry is reportedly planning to include the deregulatory step in a second market-opening package to be issued by the end of June.

Fujii on Economic 'Bright Signs,' Exchange Rate

OW1406032594 Tokyo KYODO in English 0303 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 14 KYODO—Finance Minister Hirohisa Fujii vowed Tuesday [14 Jun] to continue taking measures to make the recent bright signs in the economy spread but remained cautious over the economic outlook, citing currency rate directions.

"Bright signs are certainly appearing," Fujii told a news conference after a morning cabinet meeting.

He was referring to improvements for the first time in five years mentioned Friday in the Bank of Japan's quarterly "Tankan" survey of business confidence for May.

But he refused otherwise to offer his assessment and outlook on the economy, saying, "overall assessment is done by the Bank of Japan and the Economic Planning Agency."

"My job is to pin utmost efforts to put those bright signs on a steady path," Fujii said, particularly calling for early passage of the fiscal 1994 budget.

The delayed budget for the current fiscal year that began April 1 is under deliberation at the House of Councillors after passing the House of Representatives last week. The government is now running with a stopgap budget.

Concerning the yen's resurgence against the dollar these past few days, Fujii said the currency rate direction is a problem as he and Bank of Japan Governor Yasushi Mieno have been saying.

"We are closely watching the currency rate movements from the standpoint of the economy," he said.

He reiterated that Japan is in close contact with other Group of Seven (G-7) major industrialized nations to cooperate in stemming "undesirable volatility" as the G-7 finance ministers and central bankers reaffirmed at their April meeting in Washington.

Mieno told a House of Councillors Budget Committee meeting Monday that it looks like the economy has moved "one step" toward recovery but noted that various uncertainties prevent him from describing the economy as having gone "two or three steps forward."

Economic Planning Agency Director General Yoshio Terasawa told reporters after the Tuesday cabinet meeting, "I can't say yet the economy has turned around although I feel more optimistic."

Both Mieno and Terasawa cited lingering concern over the yen's rise and sluggish corporate capital investment as the major factors for the cautiousness.

Hata: To Reform Economic System 'Drastically'

OW1506053494 Tokyo KYODO in English 0459 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 15 KYODO—Prime Minister Tsutomu Hata on Wednesday [15 June] expressed his government's determination to reform Japan's economic system "drastically."

Speaking at the 16th trade conference, Hata said, "the reform will likely involve pain. But the government's goal of upgrading the overall standard of the Japanese people cannot be achieved without such efforts," according to an official of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry.

The conference took place at the prime minister's official residence, with foreign businesspeople attending a meeting of the highest trade body of the government for the first time.

The meeting is designed to receive views and opinions from government officials and business leaders on deregulation and other market-opening measures announced at the end of March, the official told reporters.

Horst Kramp, the head of the Berlin Chamber of Commerce and Industry, said most of the trade barriers that afflicted foreigners in the past have been successfully removed.

But Japan should make further efforts to get rid of remaining barriers, such as administrative guidance that effectively limits foreign business activity and complex business licensing procedures, Kramp said, according to the official.

James Wogsland, vice chairman of Caterpillar Inc. of the United States, urged the Japanese Government to identify and remove trade barriers on a sector-by-sector basis.

He also demanded that Japan reform its distribution system to facilitate penetration of imports.

Suvit Wanglee, the head of the Board of Trade of Thailand, voiced hope the Japanese business community, especially corporations operating in Thailand, will cooperate with local companies in order to foster Thai industries.

"Japan should serve as a locomotive for world economic growth," the official quoted Suvit as saying.

Mieno Says Economy 'Appears To Be' Improving

OW1506083394 Tokyo KYODO in English 0821 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 15 KYODO—The Japanese economy appears to be recovering but further watch is needed to see if it can pick up strongly, Bank of Japan Governor Yasushi Mieno said Wednesday [15 June].

"Assessing the most recent statistics, possibility is strong that the economy has moved one step forward toward a recovery from my recent assessment that it is showing signs of bottoming out," Mieno told a regular press meeting in repeating his earlier comments.

"But we must carefully watch the sustainability and tempo of the recovery," he noted, refusing to say the 37-month recession has hit a bottom.

Indicating uncertainty over the strength of the recovery, Mieno stressed that bottom implies a strong V-shaped pickup.

Pressed by reporters to comment on downside risks, Mieno said he could not ignore them, but "I feel the economy is moving in a good direction."

"That's why I said at the Diet (earlier this week) that a further careful watch is needed to judge whether the economy has moved two or three steps forward," Mieno said.

In his comments on Monday at the House of Councilors Budget Committee, the central bank chief described the economy with the word "recovery" for the first time since Japan suffered a double-dip recession just a year ago after showing signs of recovery.

The rosier assessment came after his bank's quarterly "Tankan" business report for May released Friday with improvements on a broad front for the first time in five years.

As positive factors indicated by the Tankan, Mieno cited improvements in personal consumption, recovery of exports, and optimistic projections in industrial output and corporate earnings.

These bright spots stemmed from progress in inventory adjustments and corporate restructuring efforts, and the spreading effects of the latest macroeconomic measures, Mieno noted.

But negative factors also prevail, he said, pointing in particular to uncertain currency rates, the still-tough labor and capital investment conditions, and increased competition with other Asian nations.

Mieno declined to comment directly on recent market views that the central bank has changed its monetary stance from loose to neutral stance in the short-term money market.

"Our stance to decide on monetary policy based on the state of the economy remains unchanged...And it now is to check carefully the tempo and sustainability of the recovery."

On the recent rise in long-term market rates, he said fluctuations are natural for market rates, and they will return to levels reflecting the economic state in the longer run.

Considering recent global moves to regulate financial derivatives, Mieno said financial authorities should pave the way for the private sector to set up its own rules and enhance the use of such "effective" risk-hedging tools.

The measures include improving statistics and disclosure to grasp transactions, he said.

Central bankers from major nations shared this view when they gathered in London last week.

Concerns led by the United States are increasing over financial derivatives, such as options and swaps, that their off-balance transactions may cause unnecessary volatility.

In Japan, however, tough regulations exist over such advanced products, and financial authorities are instead worried about losing international position.

Hata Advocates Building of Information Highway

OW1506000394 Tokyo KYODO in English 2313 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 15 KYODO—Prime Minister Tsutomu Hata has instructed his senior advisers to help implement an information highway which could create a 123 trillion yen market and 2.43 million new jobs, government officials said Wednesday [15 June].

They said the information highway project calls for setting up a nationwide optical fiber network to connect every Japanese home by 2010, as recommended in a recent report by an advisory panel to the posts and telecommunications minister.

Hata told reporters Tuesday night his cabinet hopes to establish an in-house research organization because bureaucratic red tape has prevented speedy work on the subject.

In testimony before the House of Representatives Budget Committee on Tuesday night, Hata said he is aware of criticism that Japan lags behind the United States and other countries in proceeding with its own information highway project.

He said he wants the nation's private sector to fully participate in the project, which could be a Japanese version of the U.S. information superhighway launched by Vice President Al Gore.

A high-ranking government source said the Hata cabinet plans to open the in-house research arm within this month or by early July at the latest.

Members of the new group will include the prime minister, the chief cabinet secretary and posts and telecommunications and trade ministers, the source said.

Hata told reporters on Wednesday morning his administration will get advice from the private sector although the new group will not have private sector people as members.

Hata Positive About Self-Service Gas Stations

OW1406045794 Tokyo KYODO in English 0429 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 14 KYODO—Prime Minister Tsutomu Hata told Japanese business leaders Tuesday [14 Jun] his government is willing to allow self-service gas stations in Japan on certain conditions, as part of deregulation, government officials said.

Hata was responding to a proposal by Isao Nakauchi, vice chairman of the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren), that self-service gas stations be introduced in Japan.

During the meeting at Hata's official residence, Nakauchi also asked Hata for his leadership in implementing deregulation.

Keidanren executives handed a petition to Hata, asking him to cut the number of economic regulations in half over the next five years, and map out a plan for scrapping and privatizing government-backed corporations as well as consolidating government departments.

North Korea

Kim Il-song Tells Sihanouk DPRK 'Prepared' for War

HK1506113394 Hong Kong AFP in English 1102 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Text] HONG KONG, June 15 (AFP)—North Korea is "prepared" for war if the United States keeps pushing for inspections of Pyongyang's nuclear program, President Kim Il-Song has been quoted as saying. In a meeting June 1 in Pyongyang with King Norodom Sihanouk, the North Korean leader also said he wanted direct negotiations with Washington to tension on the Korean peninsula, according to the Cambodian leader. Kim added that North Korea would not start a war with South Korea, although it would resist if attacked, Sihanouk told the FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW in an interview to appear Thursday.

"The words were not hostile at all," Sihanouk, a close friend of Kim who maintains a residence in Pyongyang, told the Hong Kong-based newsweekly in Beijing. But he quoted Kim as saying the United States, by pushing for nuclear inspections, wanted to turn North Korea into "a man without defence secrets, just a naked man." "We cannot accept that. We would rather accept a war. If they decide to make war, we accept the war, the challenge we are prepared for," Kim was quoted as saying. "They want us to take off our shirts, our coats, and now our trousers—and after that, we will be nude, absolutely naked."

North Korea announced this week it was pulling out of the International Atomic Energy Agency after resisting attempts by the UN agency to determine if it extracted ingredients for a nuclear bomb from its small reactor.

Sihanouk quoted Kim as saying: "The Americans know perhaps that we have no nuclear weapons, but they want to know what is exactly our defence system with conventional weapons." "That is the reason they want the UN atomic agency to make inspections in depth," Kim added.

Explaining why he took two weeks to convey Kim's remarks, Sihanouk told the REVIEW that the North Korean leader had asked him at the time to pass on the remarks to the king's "American friends." "But I have had no opportunities to tell (U.S.) officials," the monarch said. "No, I don't need to tell the officials, as I have been telling you (the REVIEW)."

U.S. Told of Decision To Withdraw From IAEA

SK1506051094 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0453 GMT 15 Jun 94

["DPRK Government Informs the United States of its Decision To Withdraw From IAEA"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, June 15 (KCNA)—Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam sent a notice on June 13 to Warren Christopher, secretary of state of the United States of America, the depository state of the statute of the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA], in accordance with paragraph D of Article XVIII of the IAEA's statute, informing him of the decision of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to immediately withdraw from the IAEA.

The notice was correctly conveyed to the permanent mission of the USA at the United Nations through the permanent mission of the DPRK at the U.N. on June 13.

With this, the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea completed all the legal procedures to withdraw from the IAEA.

The notice sent by Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam to the U.S. state secretary says:

I wish to remind you that the Secretariat of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA/agency) invoked the authority of the agency's Board of Governors to adopt on June 10, 1994 an unjust board's "resolution," imposing "sanctions" against the Democratic People's

Republic of Korea (DPRK), an action that has jeopardized the supreme interests of the DPRK, flagrantly encroached upon its sovereign rights and dignity, and created such a circumstance which makes it impossible for the DPRK to maintain normal relations with the IAEA any longer.

The further inspections for the continuity of safeguards we have accepted with goodwill despite our unique status based on the temporary suspension of the effectuation of our declared withdrawal from the treaty on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, and the more we have dealt with the agency Secretariat, the worse the problem has become rather than be resolved. This is the serious lessons and conclusion that we have drawn from what we have so far experienced in accepting the agency's inspections.

All the facts demonstrate that the IAEA Secretariat has pursued the dishonest political purposes of stifling the DPRK under the pretext of its inspections rather than seek a fair resolution of the nuclear issue.

With regard to the recent adoption by the agency Secretariat of another unjust "resolution" despite our strong opposition and warnings, I have been authorized to inform, through you, the Government of the United States of America, the depository government, that, in accordance with paragraph D of Article XVIII of the IAEA's statute, the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea decided to withdraw from the International Atomic Energy Agency as of June 13, 1994.

Radio on Notification to U.S.

SK1506122994 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1104 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Text] In connection with the decision of the DPRK Government to immediately withdraw from the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA], Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam notified on 13 June U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher, the trustee of the agency's ratification treaty, of this in accordance with Clause D of Article 18 of IAEA regulations.

The letter of notification was correctly conveyed to the U.S. permanent mission at the United Nations through the permanent mission of the DPRK at the United Nations on 13 June.

In this connection, the DPRK Government has completed all legal procedures related to its withdrawal from the IAEA.

The content of the letter of notification about the withdrawal follows:

I recall to mind: By adopting an unjust resolution of imposing sanctions on us through the convocation of the Board of Governors on 10 June 1994, the Secretariat of the IAEA has endangered the highest interest of our country; has gravely infringed upon the country's sovereignty and dignity; and has created a situation in which the normal relations between us and the IAEA can no longer be maintained.

In a unique status in which we temporarily suspended the effectuation of the withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, the more inspections for guaranteeing the continuity of safeguards we have undergone with good will and the more (?contacts) we have made with the agency's Secretariat, the more serious the question has become, far from being resolved. This is a serious lesson and a conclusion that we have reached while undergoing the agency's inspections up to now.

All the facts prove that the IAEA Secretariat does not desire an aboveboard resolution of the nuclear issue, but is pursuing its impure political purpose of crushing [apsal] us under the pretext of inspections.

The agency's Secretariat has again adopted an unjust resolution in spite of our strong opposition and warning. In this connection, as authorized, I notify the U.S. Government, the trustee country, through you, of the fact that the DPRK Government decided to withdraw from the IAEA as of 13 June 1994, in accordance with Clause D of Article 18 of the agency's regulations.

Commentary Justifies Withdrawal From IAEA

SK1506033694 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1220 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Commentary by Yun Pyong-son: "Just Self-Defensive Measure"]

[Text] The plot of the United States and some quarters of the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] Secretariat to isolate and crush our Republic has finally entered a stage of reckless actions [mubunbyolhan silchondangyee].

As it has already been reported, the 10 June IAEA Board of Governors meeting shamelessly demanded the opening of our military sites on the pretext of the nuclear issue and adopted an extremely unreasonable resolution on the suspension of the agency's assistance to our country.

Regarding this, the DPRK Foreign Ministry spokesman issued a statement protesting the IAEA Secretariat's unreasonable resolution, announcing our withdrawal from the IAEA, clearing that inspections for the continuity of safeguards which we have accepted in our unique status will no longer be allowed, and reaffirming that UN sanctions will be regarded immediately as a declaration of war.

Our withdrawal from the IAEA is, by all means, a just measure to protect the nation's dignity and sovereignty. As everyone knows, we joined the IAEA to strengthen international cooperation in the realm of nuclear activities and to further develop our independent nuclear power industry, not to receive somebody's pressure or sanctions while be bound by the agency.

However, some quarters of the IAEA Secretariat who kowtows to the U.S. policy of crushing the Republic laid from the beginning obstacles and difficulties in the way of resolving the issue by creating nonexistent inconsistency [purilchi]. By doing so, they compelled us to withdraw from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT] [urirohayogum haengmugijonpabangjijoyakeso taltoehagi anumyon andoege mandueosumnida].

Furthermore, they have led the situation to the extent they will finally impose sanctions, not satisfied with making demands on allowing inspections not for guaranteeing the continuity of safeguards in our special status following the temporary suspension of our withdrawal from the NPT but tantamount to routine and ad hoc inspections [chongimit pijonggi sachal].

The more we receive inspections from the agency, the more pressure and difficulties are imposed on us and our Republic's security and sovereignty are threatened.

All these are clear proofs that the United States and the agency's Secretariat are attempting to encroach upon our sovereignty and to crush us by using the leverage of inspection [sachariranun kongganul]. Under such condition, is there any reason for us, who regard sovereignty as our life line, to remain in the agency and receive unreasonable pressure, having the nation's dignity and sovereignty infringed upon? Likewise, how can we promote international cooperation in the realm of nuclear activities and develop our nuclear power industry independently when the agency arbitrarily tyrannizes [chonhoeingul pursinugo] over its member nations by standing on their heads and serves as a maid of the United States, losing its impartiality and principles of democracy?

Our decision to withdraw from the IAEA is a just self-defensive measure against the agency which is scheming outrageously to impose unreasonable sanctions against us and to penetrate into our military sites. The IAEA Secretariat's recent adoption of a resolution on us is an unpardonable act that gravely encroaches upon our Republic's dignity and sovereignty, and is an intolerable insult to our people.

With the adoption of an unreasonable resolution, the IAEA Secretariat has failed to perform its mission as an international organization and openly joined hands with the imperialist forces who attempt to crush our socialist system. By doing so, the IAEA Secretariat, as a stooge of the imperialists, resulted in smearing ink on its face with its own hands by weakening its credit in international community.

The agency's sanctions against us is, in essence, a prelude to a UN resolution. We have clearly affirmed that the UN resolution will be regarded as a declaration of war. No pressure nor threat will get through on us. Pressure and threat will in fact strengthen our will and conviction all the more.

Our people will resolutely deal with it in case any unreasonable sanctions are imposed on us in the wake of the unreasonable resolution the IAEA Secretariat recently adopted.

Reporters Discuss DPRK Withdrawal From IAEA

SK1506045594 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1111 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Dialogue between station reporters Chong Song-kan and Yi In- chun: "Self-Defense Measure Reflecting Our People's Firm Will"]

[Text] [Chong Song-kan] Hello.

[Yi In-chun] Hello.

[Chong] On 13 June, a spokesman for the DPRK Foreign Ministry issued a statement on the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] Secretariat's creation of a grave situation [omjunghan sataerul chosongsikin kotkwa kwallyonhaeso] that poses great threats to our people's dignity and our country's safety by following the U.S. policy of crushing Korea. We are going to discuss this matter in today's program.

[Yi] Yes, let us do so. As has been reported in the statement, our country's Foreign Ministry spokesman sternly denounced [chunyorhi kyutan] the United States, which is opposed to our people, and the IAEA Board of Governors, which follows the United States, for adopting an unreasonable resolution [chonman pudanghan kyorui] against us, and strictly declared that we will immediately withdraw from the IAEA to defend the nation's dignity and sovereignty.

The spokesman also declared that we can no longer allow the inspections for guaranteeing the continuity of safeguards which we have accepted in our special capacity, and strongly reaffirmed our position that UN sanctions will be regarded immediately as a declaration of war.

This is our due self-defense measure [ungdanghan chawijok chochi] that was inevitably taken because our peaceful nuclear activities hit a bigger snag [uriui pyonghwajok haekhwaltongi kumankum changaeman patke toegi ttaemune] due to the abnormal situation [pijongsangjogin satae] created by anti-Republic maneuvers of the United States and some officials [kyechung] of the IAEA that follows the United States. It is also our Republic's revolutionary response to the wrong acts [kuruttoen chosa] of the U.S. imperialist aggressors and some officials of the IAEA Secretariat.

[Chong] Yes, it is.

[Yi] Our people are now actively supporting the decision of the Republic's government to withdraw from the IAEA, regarding it as a just measure to defend the nation's dignity and the country's sovereignty.

[Chong] Yes, they are. Our Republic's declaration to withdraw from the IAEA is a just measure to cope with the insidious maneuvers [pulsunhan chaektonge chudongjoguro taechohagiwihan chongdanghan chochi] by the U.S. imperialists and some officials of the agency's Secretariat to crush [apsal] our socialist system.

[Yi] Surely it is.

[Chong] As everyone knows, the world recognizes that even in our special status, we have made all possible, well-intended, efforts to prove the transparency of our nuclear activities. However, the more we accepted inspections by the agency, the more the pressure on us has increased and the more things have become complicated, so that the security and sovereignty of our Republic are being threatened at every moment. This is an intolerable, serious matter.

[Yi] Yes, it really is.

[Chong] Frankly speaking, human patience has its limits, doesn't it?

[Yi] Yes, it does. Some officials of the IAEA Secretariat have escalated the anti-Republic crushing maneuver [pangonghwaguk apsal chaektongul kyedansiguro hwaktaehae watko], ignoring all our good intentions and tolerance [sonuiwa aryang]. On 10 June, the IAEA Board of Governors adopted an unreasonable resolution on suspension of the agency's assistance for our country while demanding the opening of our military sites [kunsa taesangdul] over the nuclear issue. This is the agency's sanction against us and, in essence, a prelude to UN sanctions. In this, the United States and the agency's Secretariat openly revealed their attempt to infringe upon our sovereignty and crush us by using the inspection lever [sachal konggan].

[Chong] You are right. The IAEA Secretariat's forcible demand that we allow overall inspection [chonmyon sachal] by the agency and its threat to impose so-called sanctions on us are an intolerable insult to our people who regard independence as their lives.

[Yi] I agree.

[Chong] Our people are not the sort of people who take insults to their national sovereignty and dignity. The more pressure and sanctions are imposed on us, the stronger our will will grow and the more free our peaceful nuclear activities will become.

As we declared on many occasions, any brigandish logic or strong-armed action can never work with us. If hostile forces [choktae seryoktul] impose new sanctions on us despite our repeated warnings, we will take stern self-defensive measures commensurate with it.

[Yi] I believe so. With our country's Foreign Ministry spokesman's 13 June statement that plainly reflects our people's firm will, we will consider all unreasonable resolutions adopted by the IAEA with regard to our issue up to the present as invalid and will not be bound to any rule or decision of the agency hereafter. Without the agency, we can develop our independent nuclear power industry and expand international cooperation in the realm of nuclear activities [haekhwaltong punya].

Any unreasonable inspection can never be allowed until we decide whether to return to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty or to completely withdraw from it. Hence, there is nothing for the agency's inspectors to do any further in our country.

As sanctions cannot coexist with dialogue, it is our inevitable choice to respond to further sanctions by the United States, some officials of the IAEA, and the hostile forces with further self-defensive measures. Our steadfast position will never change until the nuclear issue is fairly resolved through dialogue and negotiations.

[Chong] You are right. Our people value the national dignity and sovereignty as their lives. Our people will never allow any act by the U.S. imperialists and some officials of the IAEA Secretariat to infringe upon our sovereignty and to crush us.

[Yi] Absolutely not.

[Chong] The United States, some officials of the IAEA Secretariat, and hostile forces had better discreetly act while facing reality in the face.

[Yi] Right.

[Chong] We must now conclude our dialogue.

[Yi] All right.

NODONG SINMUN Questions Partiality of IAEA

SK1506112994 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1046 GMT 15 Jun 94

["Despicable Political Tool of Specified Forces"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, June 15 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today says the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) must no more be a despicable political tool of specified forces.

The paper notes:

The IAEA decided not to call in question Japan's concealment of plutonium. This is an unjustifiable act to evade its responsibility for having failed to properly discharge its mission.

It is maximizing the DPRK's "nuclear issue" with a groundless "suspicion", while leaving alone the criminal caught red-handed who intentionally and wantonly violated the nuclear non-proliferation system. This is the height of partiality and the double standard.

The partiality of the IAEA is found, above all, in its notion of the nuclear danger.

Japan's concealment of a large amount of plutonium is directly linked with its nuclear armament. Japan hopes to become a nuclear power with thousands of, tens of thousands of nuclear weapons. For the IAEA not to call in question the concealment of plutonium is to connive at and foster Japan's wild ambition to become a nuclear power.

Japan's nuclear armament is a new big threat to peace in Asia and the rest of the world. Compared with it, the fledgling peaceful nuclear activities of the DPRK which extracts a tiny amount of plutonium for an experimental purpose do not pose a threat to anyone. It is unreasonable for the agency to maximize the matter of the minimum of amount of reported plutonium of the DPRK.

The prejudice and partiality of the agency only impair its authority and dignity.

The partiality of the IAEA is manifested also in judging the possibility of divergence of nuclear material. The 70 kg of plutonium of the Tokaimura nuclear fuel-making plant of Japan was reportedly discovered at three of the 17 glove boxes of the plant.

The world considers that the amount of plutonium exposed in Japan this time where many nuclear facilities have been in operation for scores of years is a very small part of the total amount concealed all over Japan.

The IAEA which should solve Japan's diversion of plutonium which stands out with great urgency in actuality is bringing forward the non-existent diversion of nuclear material by the DPRK, making the situation complicated, while covering up the immediate question.

The effectiveness of the DPRK-proposed method of preserving the technical possibility for the later measurement of fuel rods has been proved theoretically and experimentally and recognized by world's experts. Nevertheless, the IAEA is deliberately distorting the stark objective reality and blocking a smooth solution of the DPRK's "nuclear issue" under an unjustifiable pretext. This is a very irresponsible act.

Facts show that the IAEA Secretariat does not seek non-proliferation of nuclear weapons but has pursued the sinister political aim of stifling the DPRK from the beginning according to a prearranged scenario under the manipulation of specified forces.

If the agency continues to pursue a vicious political aim, expanding partiality, the non-nuclear states, the third world countries, will no more trust it.

Voice of America Cited on U.S. Sanctions Plans

SK1106105694 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1034 GMT 11 Jun 94

["The United States Does Not Know How Bold and Decisive Supreme Commander Kim Chong-il Is; Radio Voice of America"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, June 11 (KCNA)—Radio Voice of America said on June 5 that there is a heated discussion on what phase would be created by "sanctions" against North Korea in the U.S. Congress, academic and public circles and even in the U.S. military.

The radio said that the dove camp, especially former U.S. high-ranking officials and former U.S. generals who were involved in the policy toward North Korea for a rather long period and who, staying in South Korea, frequently contacted North Korea repeatedly advised Washington to ponder over the matter, saying it is a mistake if it thought "sanctions" or "military response" against North Korea would be effective.

The radio quoted them as saying the United States does not know North Korea yet and, particularly, how bold and decisive supreme commander Kim Chong-il is. Suffice it to recall the situation on the Korean peninsula which abruptly took a critical turn in March last year, they said.

The radio quoted them as stressing that the U.S. must know well the preparedness of the North Korean Army equipped with modern weapons and well trained for action.

Not a few figures in the United States hold that, no matter how important the "nuclear issue" may be, the United States must open the door for dialogue to North Korea once again before taking "sanctions" and "military countermeasure", the radio said.

NODONG SINMUN Views Christopher-Kozyrev Talks

SK1506104094 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1026 GMT 15 Jun 94

["'Sanctions' and Dialogue are Incompatible"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, June 15 (KCNA)—U.S. Secretary of State Christopher and Russian Foreign Minister Kozyrev on June 10 in a joint press conference concerning the talks in Turkzy made public that the United States and Russia agreed on submitting to the UN Security Council a joint resolution envisaging a convocation of an international meeting on the security and denuclearization of the Korean peninsula while applying "sanctions" to the DPRK, according to a report.

NODONG SINMUN today says this shows that the moves to isolate and stifle the DPRK are expanding, assuming a new aspect in the international arena.

The news analyst goes on:

It is not to be thought of to convene an international meeting while applying "sanctions" to us. "Sanctions" and dialogue are incompatible.

We expressed some concern over the Russia-proposed international meeting, proceeding from the hope that it may make an affirmative contribution to a fair solution of the nuclear issue and other matters on the Korean peninsula through negotiations after the rupture of the DPRK-U.S. talks. But we will never allow any attempt to make the international meeting a lever of pressure on us.

We have made it clear that in case any "sanction" is applied to us, the parties joining it whether it is at their own will or against their will, and the parties backing it, would take the responsibility for this. This is not an empty talk.

We are ready to solve the matter through dialogue and negotiations but we will strongly counter pressure and "sanctions" against us.

Foreign Media Reportedly Criticize U.S. Policy

SK1106104594 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1014 GMT 11 Jun 94

["U.S. Hostile Policy Toward Korea Will Fail"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, June 11 (KCNA)—World public bitterly condemned the anti-DPRK nuclear racket of the United States and its followers.

The Malian paper AURORE May 19 said that since the DPRK-U.S. talks for a solution to the nuclear issue of the Korean peninsula broke up, the situation in the peninsula has become extremely acute. It charged that Washington and Seoul were stepping up nuclear war preparations, crying for "sanctions" against North Korea.

The nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula, it noted, can be resolved only through negotiations between the DPRK and the U.S.

A radio of Iran May 31 said the United States is claiming pressure and "sanctions" against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea only, while failing to throw into question Israel that has many nuclear weapons.

The U.S. hostile policy vis-a-vis Korea will fail in face of the resistance from the world people, it said.

The May issue of the Dutch magazine INTERNATIONAL LIBERATION said the question of guaranteeing peace on the Korean peninsula in the future depends on the U.S. attitude.

Noting that the U.S. troops stationed in South Korea are equipped with nuclear weapons and extensively staging war exercises against the DPRK, the magazine said the DPRK has its independent right to protect itself from a U.S. nuclear attack.

Christian Groups Reported To Object to Sanctions

SK1306102394 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1001 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 13 (KCNA)—The National Council of Christian Churches of South Korea in a policy discussion of the reunification committee June 10 said that the U.S.-led move of "sanctions" against the North might get on its nerve and demanded that "the United States stop utterances and acts creating tensions on the Korean peninsula," a Seoul-based radio said.

Noting that the authorities' inconsistent "policy" towards the North increases the confusion and uneasiness of the people, the organisation decided to strongly urge the puppet authorities to "shape and promote a reunification policy giving top priority to the existence and peace of the nation."

The Federation of Christian Social Movement in a recent statement clarified its stand opposed to "'sanctions' against the North," that heightens the war crisis.

Atomic Energy Department Letter Distributed at UN

SK1206101994 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0812 GMT 12 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 12 (KCNA)—The letter sent by the general director of the General Department of the Atomic Energy of the DPRK to the general director of the International Atomic Energy Agency regarding the latter's hurried "conclusion" that the agency could not guarantee the non-diversion of nuclear material, alleging that the technical possibility for later measurement of core fuel rods was lost at the 5-megawatt experimental nuclear power plant of the DPRK, was distributed as official document of the UN Security Council S/1994/677 on June 6.

DPRK Envoy To Thailand Cited on Nuclear Issue

OW1506101694 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0902 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Interview with Yi To-sop, North Korean ambassador to Thailand, by NHK on 15 June; place not given—recorded; from the "NHK News 5" program]

[Text] In an interview with NHK today, Yi To-sop, North Korean ambassador to Thailand, said a visit by former President Carter to North Korea would provide a good opportunity for North Korea to manifest its enthusiasm for a settlement of the nuclear issue.

[Begin Yi recording in English] I think that his visit will provide a good opportunity to manifest our willingness to solve this nuclear issue or break the nuclear impasse with the United States through dialogue, peacefully. [end recording]

During the interview, the North Korean ambassador stated whether North Korea will withdraw from the

NPT, the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, or not hinges on how the United States will deal with the nuclear issue and stressed anew that only dialogue between North Korea and the United States could lead to a settlement of the nuclear issue.

Commenting on IAEA inspectors who are still staying in North Korea after North Korea announced its withdrawal from the IAEA, the North Korean ambassador said North Korea would not forcibly expel them.

Former U.S. President Carter Arrives 15 Jun

SK1506102694 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1022 GMT 15 Jun 94

["Former U.S. President Carter Here"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, June 15 (KCNA)—Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter and his entourage arrived here today.

Kim Yong-nam, vice-premier and minister of foreign affairs, met them.

They were met by Song Ho-kyong, vice-minister of foreign affairs, at Panmunjom.

At Panmunjom Carter said that he had longed for visiting Korea to meet its leaders from long ago and he was very glad to be invited.

He said he hopes to meet President Kim Il-song.

He expressed the conviction that Korea's reunification would be realized without fail.

Meets With Foreign Minister

SK1506114894 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1112 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 15 (KCNA)—Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam today met visiting former U.S. President Jimmy Carter and his entourage at the Mansudae Assembly Hall.

Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Song Ho-kyong and other officials concerned were present.

Views on a series of matters of common concern were exchanged there.

KCNA Denounces Kim Yong-sam's Remarks to Carter

SK1506104894 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1037 GMT 15 Jun 94

["Ugly Outpourings of Traitor"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, June 15 (KCNA)—Kim Yong-sam the traitor, when he met ex-President of the U.S. Jimmy Carter visiting South Korea Tuesday, again let out a string of rubbish about the "inevitability of UN sanctions against the North," driveling that the withdrawal of the North from the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] is "something abnormal" and "a downright challenge to the demand of the international community," according to a radio report from Seoul.

At a press conference after meeting Carter that day, the puppet Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu cried that "the UN Security Council will take a determined measure, should the North fail to change its attitude."

The puppets used a profusion of ugly words to bring their sinister intention against the North home to Carter on the eve of his visit to the North.

Kim Yong-sam the traitor even asked Carter to "particularly guard against the smiling strategy of the North" while visiting it, unable to conceal his extreme uneasiness and irritation.

This made it plain that the traitor was secretly vexed by Carter's visit to Pyongyang.

Kim Yong-sam's hysteric outcry that the North's withdrawal from the IAEA is "something abnormal" was a ridiculous jargon. His hue and cry was, in the final analysis, a mean trash for evading responsibility for the criminal act in having driven the situation to a catastrophic phase by joining hands with the United States and some quarters of the IAEA Secretariat in the adoption of a "resolution" to stifle the DPRK. By insisting on the "inevitability of UN sanctions" the traitor Kim Yong-sam fully revealed the real intention of the South Korean puppet clique to isolate and stifle the North at any cost by laying obstacles in the way of DPRK-U.S. talks all along.

Radio Denounces Introduction of Apache Helicopters

SK1506075994 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1200 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] According to a broadcast report from Seoul on 13 June, the U.S. imperialist Armed Forces of aggression in South Korea staged a farce by making a show of Apache assault helicopters. The U.S. imperialist war mongers were bent on inciting a war fever by babbling that the assault helicopters, which they brought in last March as part of their maneuverings to reinforce the Armed Forces aimed at a northward invasion, are high performance helicopters. The U.S. imperialist war mongers also made a show of Patriot missiles not long ago and staged a farce of demonstrating how to operate those missiles.

KCNA Reports 9 Jun U.S. 'Frantic War Exercises'

SK1106051194 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0444 GMT 11 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 11 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialists deployed on Thursday formations of Pacific-based pursuit-assault planes and VTOL [vertical take-off and landing] assault planes at the U.S. Air Force bases in South Korea, according to military sources.

The warplanes were flown in an air war exercise with the skies above Yongwol, Chunchon and Asan Bay as its operational theatre. In coordination with more than 100 fighter-bombers, assault planes, observation planes and reconnaissance planes of the U.S. Seventh Air Force stationed in South Korea, they staged an exercise of striking targets and supporting ground attack.

The drill was a wildcat war gamble designed to increase the capability of quick flight of the fighter planes of the U.S. Marines to the Korean peninsula and their capacity of surprise strikes at the North in coordination with the U.S. Air Force flying corps present in South Korea.

The frantic war exercises against the northern half of Korea clearly reveal the aggressive and bellicose nature of the U.S. imperialists.

WPK Secretary Meets Carnegie Endowment's Harrison

SK1106020694 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1511 GMT 10 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 10 (KCNA)—Secretary Kim Yong-sun of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] today met and had a talk with Selig Harrison, senior associate of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace in the United States.

KCNA Reports Activities of Overseas Koreans

SK1106020294 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1504 GMT 10 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 10 (KCNA)—Koreans' organisations and Koreans in Americas and Europe are briskly conducting activities to make this year a year of the great unity of the nation.

The American Committee on the Korean Question repeatedly published informations supporting the 10-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation in December last year and early this year.

The informations said the 10-point programme is the most fair and aboveboard proposal of reunification acceptable to anyone irrespective of differences in ideology and idea, party affiliation and religious belief.

The One Korea Movement in a statement said the 10-point programme indicates the way of ending the national division, promoting the national interests and achieving security and prosperity of the Korean nation.

Son Hak-won, chairman of the Society for the Study of the Chuche Idea of Koreans in the United States, in his address to a meeting held in Los Angeles in April to celebrate the birthday of the great leader President Kim Il-song, called on overseas compatriots to build an independent, democratic, neutral and denuclearized country by following the spirit of the great national unity of President Kim Il-song.

A meeting for achieving Korea's reunification under the banner of the 10-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation also was held in Washington in April, and the 3rd meeting of the Society for Peaceful Reunification of Korea took place in Berkeley, the United States.

Organisations of Koreans overseas are briskly conducting activities to explain and disseminate the 10-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation.

Organizations of Koreans in Germany published and distributed to compatriots the "10-Point Programme of the Great Unity of the Whole Nation for the Reunification of the Country" and books explaining the programme, including "Great Charter of National Unity" and "New Evolution of Principles of National Reunification."

ROK 'Military Provocations' Reported in DMZ

SK1506113994 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1111 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 15 (KCNA)—The South Korean puppets, at around 09:15 Tuesday, brought 90-mm recoilless guns into the demilitarized zone [DMZ] near Komsa-ri, Chorwon County, South Korean Kangwon Province, and installed them at their position and took a firing posture at the North side, seriously threatening the safety of soldiers of the Korean People's Army who were on their routine duty at the post, according to military sources.

On the same day, a crowd of puppet Army bandits armed with automatic weapons, crawled into the demilitarized zone in front of Mt. Taedok in Changpung County on the western sector of the front and whipped up war hysterics, running about the area.

These were deliberate and premeditated acts of the South Korean puppets to render the situation of the DMZ strained and incite North-South confrontation.

The South Korean puppets must stop acting rashly, pondering over the grave consequences to be entailed by their reckless military provocations.

Daily Urges Koreans To Attend National Conference

SK1106105394 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1026 GMT 11 Jun 94

["National Conference Must Be Convened"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, June 11 (KCNA)—The present situation makes it incumbent upon our compatriots to come out without hesitation to the plaza of the national conference which will open a new chapter of national reconciliation and unity, irrespective of residence and job, if they to not want to fail a victim to big powers but really want the peace and peaceful reunification of the country, says NODONG SINMUN in a signed article today.

The great unity of the nation is the best way out for all the fellow countrymen to remove the danger of a nuclear war facing the nation, defend the peace of the country and open a phase of turnround for its independent and peaceful reunification, the paper notes, and goes on:

All the fellow countrymen in the North and the South and overseas fully support the convocation of a national conference which will seek a short cut to reunification in the 90s by promoting the great unity of the nation and pooling the will and wisdom of the nation, surpassing differences in ideology, idea and political view.

But the Kim Yong-sam group, which dislikes the peace and peaceful reunification of the country, is desperately opposing our proposal for the convocation of a national conference unreasonably branding it as "united front tactics" and is cracking down with the bayonet upon the South Korean students, political parties and organisations and individual figures aspiring after the opening of the national conference.

The Kim Yong-sam group answered our proposal with its role of the shockbrigade in the "nuclear" row of the outside forces against the northern half of Korea, clamouring for "a tough response," "an international cooperation system" and "sanctions against the North."

This reveals the vicious plot to block the great unity of the nation by frustrating the convocation of the national conference at any cost and ignite a nuclear war against the North together with outside forces. This is an unpardonable criminal act which can be done only by such rare traitors and warmaniacs as the Kim Yong-sam group which takes no notice of the country and the nation, peace and peaceful reunification.

The Kim Yong-sam clique is trying to block the convocation of the national conference for national reconciliation and unity with sword-brandishing and war moves, but in vain.

Unshakable is the will of the 70 million fellow countrymen to convene the national conference and tide over the present difficulties and open the road of the country's peace and reunification.

Farmers Group Proposes North-South Talks

SK1106053694 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0432 GMT 11 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 11 (KCNA)—The Central Committee [C.C.] of the Union of Agricultural Working People of Korea [UAWPK] proposed to the "National Federation of Peasant Associations" the "National Council of Peasant Organisations" and other peasant organisations of South Korea to hold a contact in Pyongyang or Seoul or Panmunjom for the discussion of the matter of convening a national conference.

This proposal was made by Choe Song-suk, chairperson of the C.C., the UAWPK, in a statement Friday.

A consultative meeting of representatives of the DPRK Government, political parties and public organisations which was held on May 25 urged the South Korean authorities to respond to the proposal for the convocation of a national conference and select South side's delegates to the preparatory committee of the conference at an early date, keeping pace with the North.

She said the peasant organisations of South Korea should launch brisk activities for an early selection of South side's delegates to the preparatory committee of the national conference and acceleration of the preparations for the conference.

"If the peasant organisations in the North and the South are to share the same view and achieve the unity of action in the efforts to convene the national conference, they must sit at one place, first of all, and come to an understanding", she said, adding: "The contact should not be wedded to a form. With the date set for the convocation of the national conference two months off, the sooner the better."

She expressed the hope that the peasant organisations of South Korea would show an affirmative response to the North's proposal for a bilateral contact.

South Koreans Praising Kim Chong-il Reported

SK1106104094 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1007 GMT 11 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 11 (KCNA)—The book "21st Century and Leader" is now being widely read by people in Seoul and Kyonggi Province, South Korea, according to radio Voice of National Salvation from Seoul.

The book deals with the greatness and leadership feats of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

A professor Kim of Seoul National University said General Kim Chong-il is the leader of the 21st century. The earth moves around the dear leader Kim Chong-il who is the conning-tower of the era of independence and the world is advancing along the road indicated by him, the professor added.

Choe Sun-nam, a company clerk residing in Songdong district, Seoul, said he could hardly repress the national pride of holding General Kim Chong-il in esteem as the leader of the 21st century. National concord, the future of the reunified country and world peace lie in holding in high esteem the dear leader Kim Chong-il who is possessed of such leadership ability as universal gravitation with which he unites all the people into one with his magnanimous politics of love for and trust in the people, he said.

A writer Yi residing in Uijongbu city, Kyonggi Province, had this to say:

The dear leader Kim Chong-il is not only a great master of independent politics who has brilliantly carried into practice the anthropocentric chuche idea fathered by President Kim Il-song in the land of the northern half of Korea and built a paradise of the people, but also a peerless great man who is possessed of literary and military accomplishments, versatile talents and profound knowledge and popular virtues.

He wished the dear leader Kim Chong-il good health and a long life for the prospering 21st century.

Foreign Groups Urge Repatriation of Old POW's

SK1406110294 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1022 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 14 (KCNA)—The repatriation of Kim In-so and Ham Se-hwan and the release of An Hak-sop were demanded strongly in various countries.

The Russian committee for the promotion of the repatriation of Kim In-so and Ham Se-hwan to the North and the release of An Hak-sop held an emergency meeting recently and sent a letter to Kim Yong-sam.

Noting that the South Korean authorities have kept old men Kim In-so and Ham Se-hwan from returning to their hometowns where their families and relatives are waiting for them for more than 40 years, the letter urged Kim Yong-sam to return them to the DPRK, stop persecuting old man An Hak-sop at once and take a necessary measure so that he may live and work as he wishes.

Franco Akame, former chairman of the National Defence Committee of the Chamber of Deputies of Italy, in a letter to the South Korean puppet ambassador to Italy demanded that the South Korean authorities immediately repatriate old men Kim In-so and Ham Se-hwan to North Korea.

If the South Korean authorities persist in their inhumane treatment and tortures against unconverted long-term prisoners, not repatriating them, they would have to pay dearly for it, he warned in the letter.

Daily Criticizes ROK's 'Colonial Dependency'

SK1106104294 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1002 GMT 11 Jun 94

["NODONG SINMUN Calls For Reviving Fighting Spirit of June Resistants"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, June 11 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN in a commentary today says the desire of the fighters of the anti-U.S., anti-fascist resistance in June 1987 for independence, democracy and reunification has yet not been realized in South Korea though seven years have passed since the resistance of the South Korean people. This is because of the U.S. policy of occupying South Korea and maintaining it as a colonial dependency, it adds.

The analyst says:

As long as South Korea remains a colony of the United States and fascist traitors stay in power, neither the desire of the people for a social change nor the reunification of the country can be achieved. This is the precious lesson gained by the June resistants and the South Korean people and the sum total of the struggle.

The South Korean students and people of all segments should wage a more valiant anti-U.S., anti-war, anti-nuke struggle and build up fierce flames of massive resistance in all areas to overthrow the Kim Yong-sam puppet regime and establish an independent and democratic government.

The South Korean people of all strata and Koreans overseas must wage a persistent nationwide struggle to reunify the country by the confederacy formula and, for the present, vigorously turn up in a joint struggle for the convocation of a national conference.

Hanminjon Favors Elimination of Nuclear Weapons

SK1406105594 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1012 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 14 (KCNA)—The Central Committee of the South Korean National Democratic Front (Hanminjon) in a letter to the international environmental organization Greenpeace supported its call for the total elimination of nuclear weapons, the Seoul-based Radio Voice of National Salvation reported.

Noting that the universal elimination of nuclear weapons must be realized at an early date for peace of mankind, the letter said:

To this end, the United States, "a chief nuclear culprit" which was the first in the world to develop and use nuclear weapons and, at present, has the largest number of them, must eliminate its nuclear weapons first and, for the present, withdraw all its nuclear weapons from South Korea and Northeast Asia.

The international reactionary forces including the United States must give up their dirty nuclear intrigue against the North, and the nuclear armament of South Korea and the Japanese authorities being promoted with their tacit approval must be stopped at once.

The letter said Hanminjon will always merge its voice of justice with the Greenpeace in active response to its just initiative and appeal and make all efforts to expand the movement for their realization everywhere Hanminjon is present and to all the governments, political parties and organizations with which it has contact.

Chonnodae Vows To Join in ROK Railroad Strike

SK1106104694 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1016 GMT 11 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 11 (KCNA)—The South Korean National Council of Representatives of Trade Unions (Chonnodae) at a press conference on June 8 declared that should railway workers go on strike, all the workers affiliated with it would take joint action, according to a radio report from Seoul.

It also said it will take joint action in all work places of its affiliates all at once if its demand, such as the withdrawal of the proposed wage hike this year which was set by the "government"-subsidized "federation of trade unions," bowing to the authorities, and the reinstatement of dismissed workers is not met.

ROK Subway Trade Union Threatens To Strike

SK1206101894 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0805 GMT 12 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 12 (KCNA)—The council of the South Korean Subway Trade Union on Thursday called a press conference and urged the puppet authorities to lift the wage ceiling, according to a radio report.

The trade union warned that it would launch into a general strike that would cause a total suspension of the operation of railways and subways throughout South Korea in case the present "regime" physically put down its demand as the past military regimes had done.

Jun Resistance Anniversary Commemorated in Seoul

SK1206102794 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0821 GMT 12 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 12 (KCNA)—Members of the National Alliance for Democracy and Reunification (Chongukyonhap) and the South Korean Federation of General Student Councils (Hanchongnyon), more than 4,000 in all, held an all-people memorial service for those who fell while fighting for the nation and democracy at the amphitheatre of the Hanyang University on June 11, a Seoul-based radio reported.

In his opening address, Yi Chang-pok, permanent chairman of Chongukyonhap, charged that "the present Kim Yong-sam 'government' is totally blocking democratisation and reunification" and called for an all-people movement to check "the parliamentary ratification of the final act of the Uruguay Round world trade accord" and demanded a peaceful solution to the nuclear issue of the Korean peninsula.

Then, a rally marking the June resistance anniversary was held to inherit the spirit of the martyrs. The ralliers vowed to fulfil the tasks to realise a genuine democracy and independent reunification on the occasion of the 7th anniversary of the resistance.

Radio Criticizes Remarks by Japan's Ozawa

SK1506030094 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1300 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] According to Japan's NHK broadcast, Ozawa, representative secretary of Japan Renewal Party, seized upon the fictitious issue of our nuclear development and made provocative remarks on a Fuji television broadcast, that the international community should deal with the issue resolutely, and that Japan should cooperate naturally if the United Nations adopts a resolution calling for sanctions. Ozawa went so far as to openly rave that the Japanese Government should take a series of steps for sanctions even before the United Nations adopts a resolution.

This shows how desperately and frantically the Japanese reactionaries are committed to sanctions against us at the front of the international alliance led by the United States.

The remarks by Ozawa, which is a grave infringement on our republic, an independent sovereign state, are an intolerable criminal act that drives the extremely strained military situation on the Korean peninsula onto the threshold of war.

The Japanese reactionaries raved about taking the lead in taking sanctions against us at a time when the International Atomic Energy Agency Board of Governors adopted an absurd resolution on the suspension of the agency's cooperation with our country and when the United States and its followers are persistently attempting sanctions through the United Nations. This is a very grave development in the situation and proves that Japan's hostile policy against our republic has reached an extreme.

Delegation of Japanese Socialists on Visit

JSDP Leader Meets Hwang Chang-yop

SK1406045594 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0432 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 14 (KCNA)—Secretary of the Central Committee [C.C.] of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] Hwang Chang-yop Monday met and had a friendly talk at the Mansudae Assembly Hall with the delegation of the Japan Social-Democratic Party (JSDP) led by Director of the General Affairs Department of the Central Executive Committee of the Party and member of the House of Representatives Kazo Watanabe.

Vice-Department Director of the C.C., the WPK Kim Yang-kon was on hand.

Delegation Meets WPK Secretary

SK1306054794 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0446 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 13 (KCNA)—Secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea Kim Yong-sun Sunday met and had a friendly talk with the delegation of the Japan Social-Democratic Party (JSDP) led by director of the general affairs department of the Central Executive Committee of the party and member of the house of representatives Kazo Watanabe.

Further Inter-Party Talks Held

SK1306055194 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0450 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 13 (KCNA)—Talks between delegations of the Workers' Party of Korea and the Japan Social-Democratic Party (JSDP) were held here Sunday.

Present at the talks on the Korean side were vice department director of the C.C., the WPK Kim Yang-kon and other officials concerned and on the Japanese side were the members of the delegation led by director of the General Affairs Department of the Central Executive Committee of the JSDP and member of the House of Representatives Kazo Watanabe.

At the talks the Korean side said the Japanese authorities must renounce the hostile policy against the DPRK and solve the DPRK-Japan relations in the spirit of the three-party joint declaration and clarified the principled stand of the DPRK toward the nuclear issue.

The Japanese side said it is the JSDP's stand to always develop friendly relations with the WPK and strive for peace and security in Asia.

It also stressed that the "nuclear issue" of Korea should be solved peacefully through dialogue and negotiation, not "sanctions" and pressure.

JSDP Delivers Gift for Kim Il-song

SK1406110394 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1028 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 14 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, received a gift from Tomiichi Murayama, chairman of the Central Executive Committee of the Japan Social-Democratic Party (JSDP).

The gift was handed to an official concerned by Director of the General Affairs Department of the Central Executive Committee of the JSDP Kazo Watanabe on a visit to Korea.

Koreans in Japan Denounce Suppression of Chongnyon

SK1406105394 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1008 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 12 [date as received] (KNS-KCNA)—A Tokyo metropolitan meeting of Koreans in Japan took place on June 11 to protest the Japanese authorities' unjustifiable suppression of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) and national persecution.

In his report at the meeting Pae Pyong-tu, vice-chairman of the Chongnyon Central Standing Committee and concurrently chairman of the Tokyo metropolitan headquarters of Chongnyon, condemned the Japanese authorities' suppression of Chongnyon and said all the branches, chapters, organizations and enterprises of Chongnyon should put spurs on the "each-visit-100 family drive" with this meeting as an occasion, going deep among the compatriots and uniting them and arousing them to the struggle to smash the crackdown on Chongnyon.

Nachiko Aoki, vice-chairman of the Tokyo metropolitan headquarters of the Japan Social-Democratic Party and member of the Tokyo metropolitan assembly, and other Japanese figures in their solidarity addresses to the meeting vowed to strive actively to eliminate discriminations against Korean residents in Japan and prevent a recurrence of human rights abuses in the Japan society.

Koreans of various strata under the Tokyo metropolitan headquarters said in their indignation speeches that they would firmly unite with compatriots and turn out as one in the struggle to safeguard the socialist homeland of chuche and the Chongnyon organization and defend the rights of compatriots under the wise guidance of the dear leader Marshal Kim Chong-il.

A protest message to the Japanese prime minister was adopted at the meeting.

Earlier, on June 10, a Kyoto prefectural meeting of Koreans in Japan took place to denounce the Japanese authorities' political suppression of the Kyoto organization of Chongnyon and national persecution.

Anti-Korean 'Rampage' by Osaka Police Noted

SK1106053994 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0441 GMT 11 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 9 (KNS-KCNA)—The Osaka prefectural police and the Higashi Police Station of Japan are getting all the more arrogant, ignoring the strong protest by the Koreans in Japan and public opinion at home and abroad, according to CHOSON SINBO.

The paper said the Osaka prefectural police, far from apologizing for its criminal acts, let out a stream of provocative words at officials of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) and

Koreans, shouting "Chongnyon of Korea, break up your protest action" and "we will arrest you, if you stay any longer".

The rampage of the Japanese right-wing gangsters is assuming greater intensity, coupled with the arrogance of the Japanese police.

On the 6th of June, they appeared around the prefectural police bureau and the Higashi Police Station where Koreans were staging a protest and made a fuss, shouting "away with Koreans."

On the 7th, right-wing gangsters belonging to the "League of Asian Nations" came with an armoured vehicle and a loudspeaker car and threatened Koreans who were staging a protest, uttering uncleanly words unfit for human mouth.

The suppression by the Japanese reactionaries has lashed the Koreans in Japan into fury.

Chondoist Group Protests Japanese 'Crackdown'

SK1406050194 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0423 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 14 (KCNA)—The Central Guidance Committee of the Korean Chondoist Association in a statement June 13 strongly urged the Japanese authorities to immediately stop their crackdown on the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) and Koreans in Japan and apologize for it and punish those responsible for the recent criminal acts.

"The recent crackdown on the Osaka and Kyoto prefectural headquarters of Chongnyon was a fascist outrage designed to totally suppress Chongnyon, part of their premeditated anti-DPRK moves encouraged by the U.S. manoeuvres to isolate and stifle the DPRK over its fictitious 'nuclear issue', and a grave challenge to the DPRK, an independent and sovereign state," the statement says, and goes on:

"The Central Guidance Committee of the Korean Chondoist Association sternly denounces the Japanese police outrages in the name of the entire Chondoists of the DPRK, branding them as rash acts of murderers, fascist maniacs to commit a second Kanto massacre.

"We will consider any suppression of Chongnyon to be an encroachment on the dignity and sovereignty of our republic and decisively counter it.

"If the Japanese authorities persist in their crackdown on Chongnyon and Koreans in Japan, they would be held wholly responsible for all the consequences arising therefrom."

The statement expresses the hope that the South Korean Chondoists and Tangun Taejonggyo believers too would turn out in the struggle to defend the dignity of their resourceful nation and check the Japanese reactionaries' suppression of Koreans in Japan.

Japan's Treatment of Chongnyon Criticized Abroad

SK1106111894 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1049 GMT 11 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 11 (KCNA)—The Japanese authorities' suppression of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) is under fire in different countries.

The Ghanaian National Institute of the Chuche Idea in a letter of protest to the Japanese prime minister June 3 said the Japanese authorities' search of Chongnyon, a legitimate organisation of overseas citizens of the DPRK, with the mobilisation of huge police and even their unhesitating murder and violence are a politically motivated sinister inhumane act.

Noting that this was an anti-human political suppression the like of which could hardly be seen in the history of the world, the letter demanded that the Japanese authorities immediately stop suppressing Chongnyon organisations, apologize for their encroachment on the legitimate rights of Koreans in Japan and fully guarantee their political rights and freedom regulated under the publicly recognized international law.

The chairman of the Denmark-DPRK Friendship Association in a letter of protest to the Japanese Government May 31 denounced the Japanese authorities for suppressing Chongnyon as part of their campaign against the DPRK and stepping up the anti-DPRK campaign in league with international reactionaries, and urged them to stop it at once.

Overseas Pomminnyon Adopts Reunification Resolution

SK1406110094 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1018 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 14 (KCNA)—The overseas headquarters of the National Alliance for the Country's Reunification (Pomminnyon), an organization of the movement for the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea, reportedly held its presidium meeting in Tokyo recently and adopted a resolution to implement the program of the movement which had been agreed and decided on at a meeting of the joint presidium of Pomminnyon.

The resolution said the meeting discussed the issue of promoting the independent and peaceful reunification of the country by forming strong units based on great national unity to counter outside forces, the United States and Japan, and the South Korean puppet clique that are trying to make a dangerous adventure under the pretext of the North's "nuclear issue."

It called on all the regional headquarters overseas to actively take part in the movement of "10,000 people's declaration" with a view to strongly urging the United States to observe the conclusions reached at its talks with the DPRK, rallying the forces of the whole nation to smash Japan's scheme to become a military power and having the Korean Armistice Agreement replaced with a peace agreement.

The resolution also called for making efforts to successfully hold the fifth pan-national rally slated for this year as a great festival of the whole nation.

WPK Secretary Meets Japanese Farmers Delegation

SK1306054594 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0445 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 13 (KCNA)—Hwang Chang-yop, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, Sunday met and had a friendly talk with the delegation of the Japan-Korea Friendship Exchange Association of Agricultural Farmers headed by Masao Yoshida, former Social-Democratic member of the house of representatives of Japan and chairman of the association.

The head of the delegation said that during his stay in Korea he witnessed the achievements made by the Korean people in socialist construction under the banner of the chuche idea, closely rallied around the great leader His Excellency President Kim Il-song and the dear leader His Excellency Kim Chong-il.

Noting that Korea has made great achievements in agriculture by implementing the rural theses, he said he saw the peaceful looks of farmers of the northern half of Korea engaged in farming even in areas near the Military Demarcation Line.

He said he got a good knowledge of the progress of socialist construction in Korea, seeing the splendid apartment houses of Tongil street built under the wise guidance of the dear leader His Excellency Kim Chong-il.

Resolution on Japan's War Responsibilities Demanded

SK1106104494 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1010 GMT 11 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 9 [date as received] (KNS-KCNA)—Prominent figures of Japan including political scientist Takeshi Ishida and lawyer Tsukuo Imamura met the speaker of the House of Representatives and the chairman of the House of Councillors on June 2 and handed them a letter urging the adoption of a special Diet resolution on Japan's responsibility for the war and apology and the establishment of an ad hoc committee for the investigation into postwar compensation.

Recalling that many Asian people were killed in Japan's war of aggression, they strongly demanded a thoroughgoing investigation into the outstanding issue of postwar compensation including the forcible drafting of Koreans and the issue of "comfort women for the army", the publication of its results and the clarification of the responsibility.

They said that the Diet should immediately adopt a special resolution on the responsibility for the war and apology with the approval of both houses and apologize for Japan's past crimes.

Vietnamese Defense Minister, Delegation Visit

O Chin-u Speaks at Banquet

SK1506061794 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0100 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Text] The Ministry of People's Armed Forces arranged a banquet for a high-level military delegation of Vietnam, which is visiting our country, at the Mansudae Assembly Hall on the evening of 14 June.

Invited at the banquet were delegates led by General Doan Khue, member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of Vietnam and minister of national defense, and Duong Chinh Thuc, Vietnamese ambassador to our country.

Comrade O Chin-u, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and minister of People's Armed Forces; Kim Kwang-chin, vice marshal of the Korean People's Army [KPA]; Col. Gen. Pak Chae-kyong; Lt. Gen. Pak Sung-won; and other generals and officers of the KPA were also on hand.

Comrade O Chin-u made a speech at the banquet. He warmly welcomed the delegation's visit to our country and said that its recent visit will serve as a momentum in promoting traditional relations of cooperation and friendship between the two countries onto a higher stage.

He said that the fraternal Vietnamese people and army are invariably marching along the road of socialism which they themselves chose, and are achieving great results in the struggle for building prosperous socialist Vietnam and strengthening the country's defense power, by upholding the will of President Ho Chi Minh. He said that they were very pleased with this and hoped that greater results would be achieved in the course of future struggle.

Comrade O Chin-u pointed out that our people and the officers and men of the army are overflowing with confidence and optimism that we will be ever-victorious as long as the supreme commander Comrade Kim Chong-il's leadership exists as they strive vigorously for socialist construction and for the independent, peaceful reunification of the country.

He said that the United States and its follower forces are intensifying more than ever before, anti-Republic maneuvers to isolate and crush our country's socialist system by finding fault with the fictitious nuclear issue of ours. He also said the government of our Republic took self-defense measures of immediately withdrawing from the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] and no longer allowing any inspections against the IAEA Secretariat's shameless maneuvers of demanding the agency's overall [chonmyon] inspections with the threat of sanctions.

He stressed that our people and the officers and men of the People's Army will defend, adhere to, and develop, the popular masses-centered socialism of our own-style under the wise leadership of the supreme commander Comrade Kim Chong-il, and will unfailingly realize the historic cause of national reunification. Our people will accelerate the socialist construction of the two countries, will fight with the fraternal Vietnamese people to build an independent, peaceful, and prosperous great Asia, and, on this course, will make positive efforts to strengthen and develop friendly relations with Vietnam, he said.

Next, National Defense Minister Doan Khue made a speech. He expressed gratitude for the warm welcome given to the delegation. Saying that Vietnam and the DPRK are socialist countries which have a tradition of friendly relations formed by the respected Comrade President Ho Chi Minh and the respected Comrade President Kim Il-song, he stated that the two countries have supported and helped each other in the arduous yet glorious struggle for national independence, the country's reunification, and socialist construction.

National Defense Minister Doan Khue said that today's situation calls on Vietnam and the DPRK to be firmly united in the struggle against the imperialists' plot to terminate socialism. He said that we were happy about the great results achieved by the DPRK people and the People's Army in the struggle to lay the material basis for socialism and to peacefully reunify the country without the interference of outside forces, and under the leadership of the WPK headed by the respected Comrade President Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il, the supreme commander of the KPA.

He said he firmly believes that the DPRK people and the People's Army, with their steel-like conviction, and energetic and creative labor, will overcome all sorts of difficulties and trials, and achieve a new result in the struggle for socialist construction and the country's independent, peaceful reunification.

Saying that he is happy that the people of the two countries have strengthened and developed friendship and unity in the past, he emphasized that this has contributed to consolidating cooperation and development not only between the two countries, but also in the Asia-Pacific region and the world. He said that the delegation's recent visit to the DPRK will contribute to further promote friendship and unity between the people and army of the two countries.

The participants of the banquet proposed a toast for the fraternal friendship and unity between the people and army of the DPRK and Vietnam; for the long life of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song; for the long life of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, the supreme commander of the KPA; for the long life of General Secretary Do Muoi; and for the long life of the respected Comrade President Le Duc Anh.

Holds Talks With Military Leaders

SK1506113794 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1108 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 15 (KCNA)—A military delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea held talks with the high-level military delegation of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam in Pyongyang today.

Present at the talks on the Korean side were O Chin-u, member of the presidium of the Political Bureau of the C.C. [Central Committee], the Workers' Party of Korea and minister of People's Armed Forces, Vice Marshal Kim Kwang-chin, Col. Gen. Pak Chae-kyong, Lt. Gen. Pak Sung-won and other generals and officers of the Korean People's Army.

Present on the opposite side were Gen. Doan Khue, Politburo member of the C.C., the Communist Party of Vietnam and minister of national defence, who is the head of the delegation, and Lt. Gen. Phan Thu, vice-minister of national defence, Lt. Gen. Le Hai, deputy head of the General Political Department of the Vietnam People's Army, Lt. Gen. Tran Hanh, deputy chief of the General Staff of the Vietnam People's Army, who are members of the delegation and suites and Vietnamese Ambassador to Korea Duong Chinh Thuc.

The talks proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

Radio Reports Delegations' Meeting

SK1506133094 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1100 GMT 15 June 94

[Text] A DPRK military delegation held talks with a high-ranking military delegation of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam [SRV] in Pyongyang today.

Attending the talks from our side were Comrade O Chin-u, member of the Political Bureau Presidium of the Workers' Party of Korea Central Committee and minister of the People's Armed Forces; Vice Marshal Kim Kwang-chin; and generals, including Colonel General Pak Chae-kyong, Lieutenant Gen. Pak Sung-won; and officers of the Korean People's Army. Attending from the other side were Gen. Doan Khue, Politburo member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam and ministry of defense, who is the delegation head; and delegation members such as Lt. Gen. Phan Thu, vice minister of defense; Lt. Gen. Le Hai, deputy director of the General Political Bureau of the Vietnamese People's Army; Lt. Gen. Tran Hanh, deputy chief of the General Staff; other members; and Duong Chinh Thuc, SRV's ambassador to our country.

The talks proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

Kim Il-song Greets Yeltsin on National Day

SK1206112494 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1200 GMT 11 Jun 94

[Text] The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song sent a message of greetings to Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin on the Russian national day.

The message reads:

Moscow, Your Excellency Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin, president of the Russian Federation:

I congratulate you and the Russian people on the Russian national day. I take this opportunity to express the belief that relations between the peoples of our two countries will develop on the principle of independence, equality, and non-interference in other's internal affairs.

[Signed] Kim Il-song, DPRK president
[Dated] 11 June 1994, Pyongyang

Government To Form Trade Committee With Ukraine

SK1306004594 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1300 GMT 10 Jun 94

[Text] Governments of the DPRK and Ukraine signed an agreement in Kiev on 8 June on the formation of a trade, economic, and scientific-technological cooperation committe. The agreement was signed by Han Su-kil, vice chairman of the External Economic Committee, and (B.S. Gavan), deputy minister of the First Department of Ukrainian External Economic Relations.

Kim Il-song Sends Greetings Message to OAU

SK1206103094 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0829 GMT 12 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 12 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song Friday sent a message of greetings to the 30th meeting of heads of state and government of the Organization of Africa Unity [OAU]. President Kim Il-song said in the message that the Organization of Africa Unity is playing a great role in strengthening the unity and solidarity of Africa in conformity with the requirement of the complicated situation after the end of the Cold War and solving the urgent problems facing the continent.

He continued:

The efforts of the Organization of Africa Unity to coordinate and settle the disputes and establish the African economic community conform to the desire and aspirations of the entire African people to build a free, peaceful and prosperous new Africa.

The African people are making all efforts to consolidate political independence, expand economic cooperation and achieve the independent development of Africa.

The African people will achieve the peace and common prosperity of Africa by adhering to independence, strengthening unity and developing South-South cooperation on the principle of collective self-reliance.

The government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Korean people always stand on the side of the African people who struggle to build an independent new life against all domination and suppression and will actively strive to develop the friendly and cooperative relations with the African people in the future, too.

Nigerian Military Delegation Departs 11 Jun

SK1306010994 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1300 GMT 11 Jun 94

[Text] A Nigerian military delegation led by Major General R.M. Kupolati left Pyongyang by plane on 11 June.

Delegation Returns From Trip to Africa

SK1206004894 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1542 GMT 11 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 11 (KCNA)—Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly, returned home today after attending the inaugural ceremony of the South African president as a special envoy of the great leader President Kim Il-song.

A delegation of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea led by him paid visits to Zambia, Cameroon and the Congo.

Delegation Returns From Nonaligned Conference

SK1106213494 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1544 GMT 11 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 11 (KCNA)—The delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea led by Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam returned home today after attending the conference of foreign ministers of non-aligned countries held in Egypt.

It was met at the airport by First Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Kang Sok-chu and other officials concerned and Egyptian Ambassador to Korea 'Ali Hijazi.

Kim Il-song's Works Carried by Foreign Papers

SK1406105694 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1014 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 14 (KCNA)—Foreign newspapers carried "Answers to questions raised by the general director of the Latin America News Agency 'PRENSA LATINA'," a famous work of the great leader President Kim Il-song.

The Tunisian paper AL WAHETA carried the work with a picture of President Kim Il-song in his office room.

It was carried by the Bulgarian paper TRIBUNA, the Chinese HEILONGJING DAILY, the Russian paper VETERAN, the Laotian paper PASASON and the Indonesian paper MERDEKA.

The Kazakh paper LIK carried an article explaining his work "10-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation for the reunification of the country".

Chinese, Japanese, Swedish Visitors Arrive

SK1206005094 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1545 GMT 11 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 11 (KCNA)—A delegation of the Japan Social-Democratic Party headed by director of the general affairs department of the Central Executive Committee member of the house of representatives Kazu Watanabe and a friendly visiting group of the Communist Party-KPML (R) in Sweden headed by Politburo member of the Central Committee Roger Gross arrived here today.

A delegation of the Jilin Yuwen Middle School, China, led by Zhao Zhongxin, secretary of the party committee of the school, came here Friday.

Economic, S&T Protocol Signed With Bulgaria

SK1306055094 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0447 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 13 (KCNA)—A protocol of the 19th meeting of the Intergovernmental Economic and Scientific-Technological Consultative Committee of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Bulgaria was signed in Sofia on May 31.

It was signed by Vice Chairman of the State External Economic Affairs Commission of the DPRK Ku Pon-tae and Vice minister of Commercial Affairs of Bulgaria Kiril Velev.

Indian, Ghanaian Parties Send Solidarity Messages

SK1406054294 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0427 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 14 (KCNA)—Solidarity messages came to the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea from Indrajit Gupta, general secretary of the National Council of the Communist Party of India, and from the National Standing Committee of the National Convention Party of Ghana supporting the Korean people's struggle to defend their national dignity and the sovereignty of their country.

The general secretary of the National Council of the Communist Party of India in his message said the council highly estimates the DPRK's stand against U.S. pressure and for the resumption of talks with the United States to solve the "question of nuclear inspection" of the DPRK.

The National Standing Committee of the National Convention Party of Ghana in its message actively welcomed and supported the DPRK's proposal to hold negotiations with the United States over the establishment of a new peace arrangement that can prevent arms buildup and creditably ensure peace on the Korean peninsula.

The National Convention Party of Ghana expresses firm solidarity for the struggle of the Workers' Party and people of Korea to achieve national reunification through a confederacy, the message said, and urged the United States to accede to the DPRK's negotiation proposal to replace the Korean armistice agreement by a peace agreement and to withdraw its troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea.

Daily Expresses People's Solidarity With Libya

SK1106105494 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1030 GMT 11 Jun 94

["Libya's Will for Independence Against Imperialism"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, June 11 (KCNA)—The Korean people express firm solidarity with the Libyan Arab people in their just cause for defending the sovereignty of the country on the occasion of the anniversary of the dismantlement of the U.S. military bases in Libya, says NODONG SINMUN in a by-lined article today.

The article says:

Through the dismantlement of the U.S. military bases the Libyan Arab people showed that the strength of the people who value their national dignity and sovereignty of their country is tremendous.

Today the Libyan Arab people steadfastly maintain the stand of independence against imperialism. This enjoys sympathy and support of the world progressive people including the African people.

The imperialists are persisting in their pressure and interference against Libya which is advancing along the road of independence, regarding it as a thorn in their flesh. But they could not break down the will of the Libyan Arab people.

The Libyan Arab people are firmly safeguarding their national dignity and sovereignty of their country under the leadership of Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the great September first revolution.

Talk Extols Kim Chong-il's Party Leadership

SK1406071294 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1000 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Unattributed talk: "The Immortal Achievements To Strengthen and Develop Our Party To Be the Chuche Revolutionary Party"]

[Text] The Workers Party of Korea [WPK] has been strengthened and developed to be the chuche revolutionary party, an ever-victorious invincible revolutionary party, and is vigorously leading our people's cause of independence, the socialist cause, today. Our party is excellently carrying out its mission and duty as a guide of the cause of socialism because the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has strengthened and developed our party to be the chuche revolutionary party for the past 30 years since he began to lead our party's work, regarding the party's leadership as a life line of the cause of socialism.

Throughout the entire period of leading the revolution and construction, the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il published many immortal classic works and gave perfect answers to the theoretical and practical problems arising in building the working-class party. With outstanding and tested leadership, he led the cause of building our party to a shining victory.

The achievements by the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il in the cause of our party building are the greatest of the immortal achievements he has made in the revolution and construction.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: Our party has firmly adhered to the principles of revolutionary party building and thoroughly embodied them in party building and party activities, thereby pioneering a new road of party building and strengthening and developing our party to be the chuche revolutionary party that we have today.

The wisdom of the leadership of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il with which he has strengthened and developed the WPK into the chuche revolutionary party of invincible might lies in his putting forth the policy of modeling the entire party membership on the chuche idea in conformity with the inevitable demand of the party's development and energetically leading the struggle for its realization. Modeling the entire party membership on the chuche idea is the revolutionary party building program that makes all the party members who compose the party enthusiastic chuche-type revolutionaries, firmly builds the party ranks, and conducts the party work and party activities thoroughly as required by the chuche ideology, theory, and method, thus strengthening and developing our party forever to be the chuche revolutionary party.

Modeling the entire party membership on the chuche idea is the general objective of our party building, and comprehensively summed up therein are the strategic task, mission, and method of our party building.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has wisely led the sacred struggle to model the entire party membership on the chuche idea and made great achievements in the cause of party building. The achievement the dear comrade leader has made in strengthening our party is, more than anything else, his bringing up all the party members to be the core elements of the revolution and firmly building the party ranks into the militant ranks of the chuche-type revolutionaries.

The dear comrade leader firmly established the party's monolithic ideological system by defining the basic line of party building and saw to it that all the party organizations persistently keep up and continuously deepen the work. As the party's monolithic ideological system has been established under the wise leadership of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, all the party members have been armed more firmly with the chuche idea, and the chuche ideological system has been firmly established in the party.

The dear comrade leader originally defined the basic duties, contents, and method of the party's ideological work in conformity with the prevailing development of modeling the entire society on the chuche idea, and energetically led the work, thus bringing up all party members to be the core elements of the revolution.

Under the wise leadership of the dear comrade leader, a new change has been brought forth in the party's ideological work, and the party is filled with the revolutionary ethos of cherishing loyalty as one's revolutionary faith and fidelity, protecting and defending the party and the leader politically, ideologically, and at the cost of one's life, and implementing the party's line and policy unconditionally to the end, prepared to face any hardship.

Another of the achievements the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il made in strengthening our party is that he has realized the party's ideological volitional unity and cohesion at the highest level. Realizing the party's unity and cohesion is the task of key significance in the revolutionary party building, and it is an important problem that determines the fate of the party and the success of the revolution.

Always giving priority to strengthening the party's unity and cohesion in party building, the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has brilliantly realized it under the uplifted banner of unity.

The unity and cohesion our party achieved today are invincible ones that have made complete, unconditional unity in ideology, volition, and action, upholding the great leader and the dear comrade leader as the center of unity. Thanks to the great unity and cohesion, our party is vigorously pushing ahead with the socialist cause, the chuche revolutionary cause, as the vanguard of revolution.

Another of the achievements the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il made in consolidating the party is that he has thoroughly established the revolutionary work system and iron discipline within the party. Setting up the well-arranged work system and iron discipline within the party is a significant demand of principle arising in the revolutionary party building. When the well-arranged work system and iron discipline are set up within the party, the party's militant might can be strengthened in every way and the party can triumphantly fulfill its duty and mission as a guide of socialism and communism.

Judging that establishing the revolutionary party work system is one of the basic problems in enhancing the party's militant role and function, and iron organizational discipline within the party, the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has brilliantly solved this problem.

Ceaselessly changing the method of work in accordance with a new party work system comes up as an issue of principle in building the working-class party. Party work and party activities can be realized through the method of work, and establishing the revolutionary method of work is of significance in setting up the party work system.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has set forth an unique line of carrying out the work with people as a key party work, and let all problems arising in party building and party activities be solved through the work with people and the organizational, political work. The dear comrade leader has thoroughly embodied the chuche work system and the great leader-way work system initiated by respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song and thus made the great leader's idea and leadership be brilliantly realized in party work and party activities.

Paying close attention to setting up anti-Japanese guerrilla work method in the entire party, the dear comrade leader has energetically led to improve the work method of the party organizations and functionaries. As the result of establishing anti-Japanese guerrilla work method, the revolutionary work ethos of which functionaries, like commanders of anti-Japanese guerrilla, go down to the producer masses with a strapsack on their back; live and work with them; seek a right methodology to the problem with them for the realization of the presented task; and set out on work in a big way and push it ahead audaciously. Hence, the party's features have been newly changed and the party's method of work and ethos have been fundamentally renewed.

In this way, the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has sought all keys of victory in strengthening the party in the entire course of leading the work of revolutionary struggle and construction. He has also achieved brilliant accomplishments in implementing the cause of building our party by strengthening the party ideologically, organizationally.

The problem of inheriting the party's revolutionary cause has been brilliantly solved. This is the most proud victory achieved by the cause of building our party. Amid the struggle for modelling the entire membership on the chuche idea, the governing body of the party has been firmly strengthened to inherit our party's idea and leadership, the party's organizational, ideological basis has been firmly consolidated, and the party's system of leadership has been established. In doing so, our party has been further strengthened as a great party with absolute authority and prestige.

Truly, thanks to the tested and excelled leadership of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, who glorifies the chuche-oriented cause for party building from generation to generation, the WPK has been today developed and strengthened as the chuche-typed party. This is the greatest of the immortal achievements he made before the times and revolution.

Anniversary of Kim Chong-il Guidance Marked

SK1306055394 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0454 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 13 (KCNA)—A meeting was held Sunday to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the on-the-spot guidance of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il to the Korean Central News Agency.

Comrade Kim Chong-il guided the KCNA on the spot on June 12, 1964.

He had a historical talk entitled "The Basic Tasks Facing the Korean Central News Agency" with KCNA officials, clearly indicating the road ahead of it.

Comrade Kim Chong-il gave flawless answers to all the theoretical and practical questions for the development of the work of the news agency such as its basic tasks, functions and role, the principles it must maintain to become a mighty ideological weapon of the party and ways for their application.

After his on-the-spot guidance, KCNA has been able to serve better for the cause of modelling of the whole society on the chuche idea as an ideological weapon of the Workers' Party of Korea and defend and exalt the revolutionary tradition of the chuche-based press.

KCNA has grown to be a collective unfailingly loyal to the party and the leader over the past 30 years.

Tasks were set forth at the meeting to enhance its functions and role in every way as a mouthpiece of the party and the government.

Stamps Praising Kim Chong-il's Party Work Issued

SK1106104794 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1019 GMT 11 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 11 (KCNA)—Stamps on the lapse of 30 years since the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il began to work at the Central Committee of the Workers' Party [WPK] of Korea were issued in Korea.

Printed in stamps are pictures of Comrade Kim Chong-il wisely organising and leading the work of the party, the state and the Army as a whole with his tireless and energetic activities.

The stamps well depict the leadership feats of Comrade Kim Chong- il in strengthening the might of the independent national economy and effecting a new turn in the improvement of the people's living standard, while defending and carrying forward the glorious revolutionary traditions of the WPK.

The stamps impressively reflects the unanimous respect and reverence of the world revolutionary people for Comrade Kim Chong-il who gives perfect answers to the theoretical and practical questions arising in the accomplishment of the socialist cause at the present time and is wisely leading it.

Chang Chol Speaks at Film Week Premiere

SK1406045694 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0435 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 14 (KCNA)—A film week began from June 13 to mark the 30th anniversary of the start of work by the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il at the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.

During the film week all the cinema houses across the country will screen many documentary films including "Great Guidance Leading Our Party Always to Victories," "Great Leadership Glorifying Revolutionary Traditions Through Ages," "Korea, I Will Glorify Thee," and "The Great Paragon," which record the feats of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il in his leadership.

The feature films "Guarantee" (Part one and two,) "The Looks of a Party Member" and "Story About a Flower" and the multi-part feature film "The Nation and Destiny" will be screened during the week.

The opening ceremony of the film week took place at the Kaeson Cinema House in Pyongyang Monday.

An opening address was made by Vice Premier of the Administration Council and Minister of Culture and Art Chang Chol.

Rice Transplanting Said Successfully Completed

SK1306214394 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1501 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 13 (KCNA)—Rice transplanting and humus-potted maize transplanting were all finished in the right season to be followed by weeding of paddy and non-paddy fields in the countryside of Korea.

According to data available, the first-round weeding had been carried out at 83 percent in paddy fields and at 81 percent in maize fields nationwide by the 10th of June.

South Hwanghae and South Pyongan Provinces, Kaesong, Pyongyang and Nampo municipalities finished the first-round weeding in the period. Now they have carried out the second-round weeding at 50 percent.

The agricultural working people in South Hwanghae Province, regarding qualitative weeding in the right season as one of the basic factors of a high yield of grain, set themselves the goal of finishing the third-round weeding of the paddy and non-paddy fields within this month and are topping their daily quotas 20 percent by concentrating manpower and machines on it.

Weeding is also brisk in the mountainous rural areas and on the east coast.

Meanwhile, efforts are being made to do fertilizing on a scientific and technical basis and prevent damages by harmful insects.

Soldiers Accelerate Construction of Expressway

SK1306082994 Pyongyang Korean Central Television Network in Korean 1100 GMT 11 Jun 94

[Text] Upholding the party's intent to hasten the completion of the expressway between Pyongyang and Hyangsan, Korean People's Army soldiers of Comrade Choe Tong-suk's unit are vigorously accelerating the bridge construction assigned to them.

The unit soldiers, who have a firm faith to do everything the party decides, have completed placing some 40,000-cubic meters of gravel and building about 4,000-square meters of retaining walls and more than 10 structures by accelerating the construction with the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and fortitude. They have also completed planting trees and grass. Being elated by the completion of these things, they are expediting the construction of the bridge and effect innovation every day.

In close cooperation with the working class at the No. 51 construction office of the Hwanghae Steel Complex, they are now accelerating erecting (?pillars) and are scoring gains in this work by overcoming difficulties and obstacles with their own strength.

Seminar Held by 'Pressmen' in Pyongyang

SK1106053794 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0437 GMT 11 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 11 (KCNA)—A seminar of pressmen took place in Pyongyang on the lapse of 30 years since the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il began to work in the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.

The speakers said the dear leader, with a deep insight into the great role of news media in the revolutionary struggle, has attached particular importance to the publication and information services and led them since he began his work in the party Central Committee.

They said the undying feats performed by him in guiding the publication and information services are that he provided a great guideline for the building of revolutionary news media of the working class by putting forward a chuche-based idea and theories on the publication and information services, kindled the flames of revolutionization of newspapers, news services and publications and established a revolutionary work system of the press media.

They pointed out that at a time when news media of some countries have been reduced to guides on the frustration of socialism and their return to capitalism, giving in to the bourgeois ideological offensive of the imperialists and reactionaries, the news media of the DPRK are serving as triumphant drumbeats in the noble struggle to resolutely defend the party and the leader and safeguard and glorify the socialist bastion under the banner of the chuche idea. They added that this is entirely results of the wise guidance of the dear leader who put forward a great chuche-based programme of the press and led the struggle to carry it into reality.

Seminar Held in Pyongyang on Literature, Art

SK1206102194 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0825 GMT 12 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 12 (KCNA)—A seminar of literary men and artistes was held here on the lapse of 30 years since the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il began to work at the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.

Speakers said Korea has met a great heyday of literature and art thanks to the chuche-based literary and art thought and energetic guidance of the dear leader. They noted that with a revolutionary change in film, opera, drama and all other domains of literature and art, immortal classical masterpieces were adapted in various art forms and the theoretical and practical problems arising in creation and representation including the portrayal of the leader in literary and art works were successfully solved.

Noting that the Korean writers and artistes have grown up to be ranks of loyalty unfailingly faithful to the party and the leader, the speakers said it is one of big achievements in the efforts to model literature and art on the chuche idea.

Referring to the feats of the dear leader who established a regular system of guidance over the party life in the domain of literature and art, they stressed that it was a precious result of the new system's superiority and vitality that writers and artistes remain boundlessly loyal and devoted to the party and the leader.

KCNA Highlights Development of Coal Industry

SK1406215794 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1516 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 14 (KCNA)—Coal is called "food" of industry in Korea.

The history of socialist economic construction in the country began with developing coal resources and upgrading coal industry. The state defined the coal industry as one of the domains that should be kept ahead of other domains of the national economy and has all along directed big efforts to it.

In the 1970s when most countries around the world were depending on oil in industrial development Korea developed the industrial sectors feeding on the rich domestic coal resources as its fuel, raw material and power resources, thus building a powerful independent national economy. The state has increased the production capacity of the existing coal mines 3.5 times over the past 30 years by steadily increasing investments in the coal industry. And it has constructed 40 odd coal mines and over 50 pits in promising areas.

The coal industry is now turning out in a few days as much coal as was produced in the whole year of 1946.

Korea produced 27.5 million tons of coal in 1970 to reach the level of the developed industrial states in the coal output per head of the population in those days. The annual output hit the 85 million ton mark in the 1980s.

The rapid development of industry resulted in the ever increasing demand for coal. With a view to satisfying the demand for coal, the state put forward the task to boost the coal output 30 percent in the adjustment period (1994-1996). Big efforts are being made nationwide to hit the goal.

New coal deposits have been found in different parts of the country. With the discovery of promising coal deposits in Yanggang Province which has been dependent on other areas for coal, prospects have opened for meeting the local demand by itself.

The construction of new coal mines and pits is progressing and undertakings to carry out a comprehensive mechanization of pit work are gathering momentum.

The laying of a belt conveyor line to increase the transport capacity in the pits of Yongdung, Changan, Sochang and Sunchon area coal mines and a project to increase production capacity of the Kangdong area coal mines have reached the final stage.

Work is making a successful progress to move up the date of commissioning of the coal mines and pits under construction in Anju and the northern region and to complete the comprehensive mechanisation of pit work at the June 13 coal mine, the Hakpo coal mine, etc.

KCNA Reports Increase in Salt Production

SK1106020394 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1506 GMT 10 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 10 (KCNA)—Salt production is increasing in Korea. At salt works of the country the salt production in four months of this year increased more than 20 percent compared with the same period of last year.

The Yonbaek Salt Works which began the production of salt one week earlier than last year has overfulfilled its monthly quotas by 47 percent on an average by actively introducing advanced production methods.

The Kwangyangman salt works has produced several thousand more tons of salt in this period.

Kuisong and Namyang salt works which fulfilled their may plans respectively at 102 and 105 percent are carrying out their daily salt production this month at more than 130 percent.

The salt works across the country are exerting all their efforts to attain the goal of increasing production for this month 50 percent as against last month.

South Korea

Envoy to France Says U.S. Agreed to IAEA Withdrawal

BR1506134494 Paris LIBERATION in French 15 Jun 94 p 29

[Romain Franklin report: "Pyongyang Confirms Withdrawal From IAEA"]

[Text] Pak Tong-chun, the representative of the general delegation of North Korea in France, confirmed yesterday to LIBERATION that his country had withdrawn from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and that the United States, which is the depositary for the ratification instruments of the signatory states, had been officially notified of this on Monday, 13 June, in accordance with the required procedure. Nevertheless, North Korea is still a member of the Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT). On the other hand, "if sanctions are decided by the United Nations," Mr. Pak said, North Korea "would no longer have any reason to stay in the NPT" and "will declare war on all those who seek to align themselves with the American strategy aimed at strangling our Republic," which, he continued, "can no longer tolerate attacks on its sovereignty."

The North Korean representative also asserted that the United States accepted the principle of a withdrawal of its military forces from South Korea (37,000 men) within the framework of a "secret" bilateral agreement concluded between the two countries in New York in December 1993 and signed in February. Pak did not provide any evidence of this, however. "The United States asked us not to divulge this, but since then it has reneged on all its promises," he continued.

A State Department spokesman responsible for Korean affairs contacted in Washington refused to comment on these allegations. He did confirm, however, that a "broad, comprehensive approach" was the "goal of the talks held between North Korea and the United States." According to him, Washington agreed, among other things, to provide "a guarantee of the non-use of nuclear arms on the Korean peninsula and diplomatic recognition" of the Pyongyang regime. In exchange, Pak said, Pyongyang "will return to the NPT and will once again authorize ad hoc IAEA inspections."

"If the negotiations between North Korea and Washington had carried on as we requested, the whole problem would have been resolved," Pak said. However, the United States repeated on Monday that direct negotiations with Pyongyang would only be possible if North Korea "regularized its situation with the IAEA."

The United States is preparing to submit a preliminary draft resolution to the United Nations aimed at imposing "phased" sanctions. This process will require "a certain amount of time," Washington said. It might take even longer since Russian President Boris Yeltsin said Tuesday that he wanted to make any "phased" sanctions "dependent" on the holding of a international conference on Korea. President Clinton does not want this proposed conference to become an "obstacle" to the imposing of sanctions.

PRC Reportedly Not Consulted on IAEA Withdrawal

SK1406115494 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 1100 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Report by Yi Tong-sik from Beijing]

[Text] The Chinese Government has released an official statement that it is watching developments regarding North Korea's withdrawal from the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA].

In an explanation of its government's position released 15 hours after North Korea declared its withdrawal from the IAEA, the Chinese Foreign Ministry disclosed that North Korea did not officially notify the Chinese Government, stressing that it is watching with deep interest developments related to North Korea's nuclear issue. Such a comment by the Chinese Government hints that North Korea declared its withdrawal from the IAEA without prior consultations with the Chinese and that China is failing to establish a diplomatic response.

China's XINHUA News Agency only carried a brief report on North Korea's statement 14 hours after Pyongyang issued the statement, quoting North Korea's NODONG SINMUN.

Newspapers Review DPRK's Withdrawal From IAEA

SK1406142194

[Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of articles published in Seoul vernacular newspapers on 14 June on North Korea's withdrawal from the International Atomic Energy Agency, IAEA.

The moderate CHUNGANG ILBO carries on page 1 a 1,600-word report on the movement of the ROK Government, the United States, the IAEA, and China in the face of North Korea's withdrawal from the IAEA, writing they are all agonizing over mapping out countermeasures. The report notes that the North Korean nuclear issue is at the edge of a cliff, while noting that the ROK Government confirmed again its stance of pushing for UN imposition of sanctions against North Korea by convening an emergency meeting of the Unification-National Security Coordination Council on 14 June. The report continues: "Because North Korea has not withdrawn from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, NPT, a mother law of the IAEA, it still has a legal duty to undergo inspections of its nuclear facilities. In case North Korea should reject the inspections and order inspectors to leave, a process for international inspection of North Korea's nuclear activities will completely disappear, thereby greatly shocking the international community. North Korea's nuclear issue will surely bring about long-term consequences, depending upon the international community's response."

The report quotes Yi Hong-ku, deputy prime minister and minister of the National Unification Board, as saying after the 14 June Unification-National Security Coordination Council meeting that North Korea's breaking away from all safety devices guaranteeing the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula is decisively running counter to the peaceful solution of the nuclear issue, while urging North Korea to cooperate to secure all safety measures as required by the NPT system. The report further quotes Minister Yi as stressing that there is no peculiar military activity on North Korea's part, while noting the government will continue to make solid and consistent efforts for the peaceful solution of the North Korean nuclear issue.

CHUNGANG ILBO also carries on page 3 a 1,200-word article on the reaction of the ROK Government. The article quotes participants in the 14 June Unification-National Security Coordination Council meeting as analyzing that North Korea's withdrawal from the IAEA was carried out to emphasize its threats that if the IAEA imposes sanctions, it will withdraw from the NPT; and if the UN Security Council decides on sanctions, it will regard this as a declaration of war. Government officials concerned are quoted as saying that North Korea's withdrawal from the IAEA is a low-level measure—one step lower than withdrawal from the NPT—to secure as many bargaining chips as possible; not to abruptly escalate the intensity of confrontation; not to yield to the pressure of sanctions; and to hold in check sanctions by the UN Security Council. The article comments: Considering that North Korea's latest move is aimed at testing our government's will, the ROK Government has decided to react strongly.

The article reports that it will be easier for the ROK Government and the United States to persuade China and other neighboring nations to deal with North Korea's nuclear issue, predicting that China and Russia will be able to exercise stronger influence and North Korea's nuclear issue will be discussed at a forum other than the United Nations. The article concludes that the government is concentrating its efforts on mapping out security countermeasures against North Korea's possible provocations.

CHUNGANG ILBO also carries on page 3 a 1,000-word editorial on the dangerous nature of North Korea's withdrawal from the IAEA, noting that North Korea's diplomacy is moving toward an extremely dangerous all-or-nothing stage. The editorial comments that North Korea has two goals: One, North Korea will deal only with the United States to the exclusion of the IAEA; two, North Korea is trying to drive a wedge in the international community's discussion of the imposition of sanctions. The editorial concludes that North Korea is trying to achieve a dramatic effect with the approach of the upcoming visit by former U.S. President Carter and urges North Korea to understand that the United States is not so easy and that if its excessive strategy fails, there will be a larger danger.

The moderate, culturally oriented MUNHWA ILBO carries on page 1 an article on ROK and U.S. reactions. The article predicts that as a result of the increasing mistrust of North Korea, discussion at the UN Security Council will proceed more quickly, while noting the ROK and the United States have reaffirmed their position to push for the UN Security Council's imposition of phased sanctions on North Korea.

MUNHWA ILBO also carries on page 1 an article on Pyongyang's ulterior motives. The article reports that Pyongyang is trying to realize direct negotiations with the United States, while noting that in the eyes of North Korea, the IAEA is nothing but an obstacle to its negotiations with the United States. The article continues that North Korea did not withdraw from the NPT, reporting this means that North Korea is not preparing for a face-to-face confrontation with the United States, but shows that it has not given up its nuclear diplomacy through negotiations.

15 Jun Newspapers Comment

SK1506102094

[Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of articles and editorials published in Seoul vernacular newspapers on 15 June regarding North Korea's withdrawal from the International Atomic Energy Agency, IAEA.

The conservative CHOSON ILBO publishes on page 3 an 800-word editorial entitled "We Can No Longer Let North Korea Take the Initiative." The editorial stresses that North Korea is not a rational society and that it has been obstinate in its unreasonable demands for almost half a century. The editorial holds the South partially responsible for "spoiling" the North by accepting their unreasonable demands.

Analyzing the withdrawal from the IAEA as "a strategy to earn some more time to develop nuclear weapons and gain better conditions for negotiations," the editorial warns that it is not significant that North Korea is holding back its withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, NPT, and the government should stop accepting unreasonable demands.

The editorial concludes that the government should review how the United States and Russia ended their nuclear competition after the cold war and should develop the most practical strategy to deter war.

CHOSON ILBO publishes on page 4 a 1,200-word article by reporter Pak Tu-sik on the ROK Government's stance regarding the withdrawal. The article reports that the government believes North Korea's withdrawal is a strong political and psychological attack aimed at restraining further resolutions and leaving the U.S.-North Korean talks as the only communications channel.

The article reports that the government plans "to include a measure in the UN Security Council's sanction resolution that could cause North Korea substantial damage," while continuing to persuade China to agree to the UN resolution.

The article continues that the government's policy is that there is no alternative to sanctions and that the existing strategy of inducing North Korea to reform and opening up may change to a strategy of isolating North Korea.

CHOSON ILBO publishes on page 5 a 1,600-word article by the deputy editor-in-chief entitled "North Korean Nuclear Issue and the Economy." Noting that the ROK people have finally become aware of the emergency situation and have begun to purchase emergency materials, the column reports that it is very fortunate, however, there are no signs of an economic crisis. The column says that "the ROK people have been well trained for emergencies for the past 40 years of confrontation between the North and the South" and even developed an economy amid such a tense situation. The column recalls that the ROK people were able to create a "compressed growth" in a short period with an aim to outdo the North during the Pak Chong-hui regime. The column stresses that the government should strengthen internal cohesion and concludes that the best way for the people to repel a North Korean threat is to concentrate on their daily life dauntlessly and not show signs of social chaos.

The pro-government SEOUL SINMUN publishes on page 3 a 1,100-word article by reporter Yang Sung-hyon on the ROK Government's reaction to North Korea's withdrawal from the IAEA. The article reports that the government does not view the withdrawal as a new trick, but a part of the existing card, however, the withdrawal can be interpreted as "North Korea's determination that a UN Security Council sanction resolution will be followed by North Korea's withdrawal from the NPT." The article reports that a government official analyzes that the withdrawal only makes China and Russia less inclined to oppose sanctions.

The article says that the government may expedite the adoption of a UN sanction resolution early next week if North Korea does not change its attitude after former U.S. President Carter's visit to the North. The article reports that the government is also considering economic consequences and doing its utmost to maintain stability through impeccable security measures against North Korea's armed provocation. The article concludes by quoting a government official: "Our side, as well as North Korea and the international community, are all in a tense confrontation fearing that one step back will make one lose the initiative forever."

The independent moderate MAEIL KYONGJE SINMUN, specializing in economic topics, publishes on page 3 an 800-word editorial entitled "Tension of the North Korean Nuclear Issue and Preparedness." The editorial analyzes that North Korea withdrew from the IAEA merely to avoid losing face caused by the IAEA resolution and urges readers not to be affected by North Korea's nuclear game. The editorial stresses that the ROK people should not respond to North Korea's threats, such as their remarks about regarding sanctions as a declaration of war, and maintain economic activities unswervingly.

The moderate KYONGHYANG SINMUN publishes on page 3 a 1,000-word article by Yi Sung-chul on the government's reaction to North Korea's declaration of its withdrawal from the IAEA. The article reports the government "will continuously push ahead with its original policy for sanctions against North Korea by the UN Security Council" because it believes North Korea's declaration on withdrawal from the IAEA "does not have any practical meaning, but has political and symbolic meaning." The article continues: "The government believes the nuclear issue has not changed at all in essence since North Korea is still obligated to accept inspections as a signatory of the NPT despite its declaration of withdrawal from the IAEA."

The article quotes a ranking government official as saying that the declaration by North Korea is "at an expected level [yejongdoen sujun] following the adoption of the UN Security Council resolution" and is regarded as "a bluff to counter the UN Security Council's moves toward sanctions" rather than "a new card."

The article also reports that the government's adherence to its original position on sanctions shows its will to take the lead in South-North relations in the adverse situation following North Korea's replacement of fuel rods.

Quoting a government official's remarks, the article notes: "The declaration by North Korea gave us an advantage in persuading countries like China, which have declined to agree to sanctions against North Korea."

The article reports that the government considers adding "stronger terms" [kanggyong naeyong] in the UN Security Council draft resolution in response to North Korea's follow-up measure and that the government will convey "the international community's mood" and the fact that "there is a limit to the flexibility of the United States and the ROK" through former U.S. President Jimmy Carter.

The moderate TONG-A ILBO publishes on page 5 in its "Today and Tomorrow" column a 1,000-word article by senior reporter Choe Maeng- ho entitled "The 'Level of Crisis' on the Korean Peninsula." The article remarks on the lack of attention to security on the part of the people because they think "North Korea cannot afford to carry out a war" and believe "it will not provoke a war unless the United States attacks first." Noting that the purchase of emergency food supplies does not seem to be motivated by serious anxiety, the article ascribes the people's "lack of security sense" to the feeling "there would be no particular way out even if a war takes place."

After touching on the government's "inconsistent policy on North Korea" and stressing that "the situation regarding the nuclear issue is certainly developing into a crisis," the article concludes by urging the government and people to make every effort to "avoid the possible demise of both South and North Korea."

The moderate HANGUK ILBO carries on page 3 an 800-word editorial entitled "North Korea's Reckless Run to Withdrawal From the IAEA." The editorial denounces North Korea's withdrawal from the agency as "a serious challenge and an illicit act that has devastated the international order," and warned against North Korea's aim to "bargain over the nuclear inspection issue only with the United States, excluding the IAEA." The editorial stresses the need to "sternly proceed with imposing pressure and UN Security Council gradual sanctions on North Korea in close cooperation among the ROK, the United States, and Japan until North Korea retreats from its withdrawal from the IAEA and allows an overall nuclear inspection" [chonmyon haek sachal]. The editorial also emphasizes that "exclusive negotiations between the United States and North Korea should be held after North Korea returns to the IAEA and allows the inspection."

The left-leaning HANGYORE SINMUN carries on page 3 a 900-word editorial entitled "North Korea's Adventurous Choice" analyzing the reason for North Korea's withdrawal from the IAEA. The editorial analyzes this action by North Korea as "a reaction against the agency's repeated acts, unfavorable to North Korea, following the United States" and as an expression of its "determination to be separated from the IAEA, which has ceaselessly raised new issues even after North Korea allowed nuclear inspections." Pointing out the possibility that "the keen confrontation between North Korea's strong strategy and the U.S. intent to show its stern resolution to punish the North will further aggravate the situation on the Korean peninsula," the editorial stresses the need to make efforts to find a way "from confrontation to dialogue." The editorial also comments on the "need to review closely the reason for North Korea remaining in the NPT, after withdrawing from the IAEA."

Prime Minister Discusses Possibility of Sanctions

SK1506141894 Seoul KBS-1 Television Network in Korean 1221 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Interview with Prime Minister Yi Yong-tok by Yi Yun-song on 15 June—recorded; place not given]

[Text] [Yi Yun-song] Sanctions mean war. Therefore, we cannot be responsible. This is a threatening remark repeatedly being made by the North Korean side. However, sanctions clearly attach a precondition that it forces a dialogue. Some people are buying large amounts of daily necessities, which is even all the more instigating anxiety. We will hear about the current situation from Prime Minister Yi Yong-tok. Hello, Prime Minister.

[Prime Minister Yi Yong-tok] Hello.

[Yi Yun-song] Even if war does not break out immediately, do we have to be prepared for even the slightest possibility?

[Prime Minister Yi] Yes, we have to be prepared. There is a saying: Be prepared, and you will have no cause for regrets. I believe that we must be prepared for even the slightest possibility so that we can live in security. A civil defense exercise was carried out today. People are wondering if it was carried out because of the current troubled situation. That is not so. We are to hold civil defense exercises twice a year in June and September. I want to clearly say that today's exercise was no more than a scheduled exercise, it was not carried out because an unusual situation has taken place.

[Yi Yun-song] The government is worrying about apathy by the people regarding security and also over the excessive apprehension and crisis awareness. People are even saying that they do not know what to think. What is the government's clear position?

[Prime Minister Yi] I believe that we must differentiate between being aware of security and being apprehensive about security. Awareness of security means being prepared for the slightest possibility of a calamity so that there will be no regrets later. Being apprehensive about security is an unsound reaction stemming from ignorance over what the current situation is and how it will develop. The current situation is a situation in which we do not have to be worried. However, there exists our counterpart, North Korea. I emphasized the need to be aware of security even though we know that they will not dare provoke us again when viewing our strong preparations, but we must be prepared for the slightest possibility. Being apprehensive makes the people act abnormally, such as buying large amounts of daily necessaries, which may bring about social confusion. I believe North Korea is aiming at social confusion. Therefore, we must not react unsoundly without any solid ground over the current situation.

[Yi Yun-song] From two to three days ago people living in well-to-do residential areas started buying large amounts of daily necessities. Fortunately most of the people are observing the situation and are restraining from impulse purchases. What is your view on this matter?

[Prime Minister Yi] Since we are under a situation in which we are fully prepared, I would like to clearly say that war will not break out immediately and would like to ask the people not to be worried. I would like to ask the people to assume the attitude of always being prepared for the slightest possibility.

[Yi Yun-song] Thank you.

[Prime Minister Yi] Thank you.

Government Examining UN Draft Resolution

SK1506145294 Seoul KBS-1 Television Network in Korean 1200 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Text] On 15 June, the government quickly obtained and has already begun examining a draft of the UN Security Council resolution for imposing sanctions against the North, which the U.S. Government has worked out. Kim Chin-sok has this report:

[Begin Kim Chin-sok recording] A draft of the UN Security Council resolution for imposing sanctions, which the U.S. Government has worked out, was obtained today by our government.

One high-ranking government official disclosed: We obtained a draft of the resolution for imposing sanctions against the North—which has been approved by U.S. President Clinton—through the ROK Embassy in the United States this afternoon and have begun examining it.

According to the official, the content of the draft follows:

First, there will be a one-month grace period before the imposition of sanctions. This means sanctions will be imposed unless there is a report that relations between North Korea and the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] have been completely restored within a month.

Next, sanctions will be imposed in such a way to ban exports of all kinds of weapons to North Korea, in addition to halting UN economic, technological, and cultural aid.

This draft is more intense than has been reported by foreign news reports.

In addition, Russia's proposal to hold an international conference will be followed if the IAEA reports to the UN Security Council that North Korea has agreed to completely cooperate with the IAEA. This means that the proposal is not a precondition to the imposition of sanctions.

Copies of this draft were also distributed today to China, Russia, Britain, and France—permanent members of the UN Security Council—as well as to our government.

The government official explained that since the draft was worked out, the United States has already had close consultations with our government, and sent a copy of this draft to us on a top priority basis.

Of course, there is the possibility that the content of this draft will be revised to a considerable extent, depending upon consultations between the United States and the countries concerned, particularly China and Russia.

The government's policy is to make all diplomatic efforts to ensure our position is fully reflected in this process. [end recording]

ROK Pushing for UN Resolution in 2-3 Weeks

SK1506072094 Seoul YONHAP in English 0711 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Text] Seoul, June 15 (YONHAP)—Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu said Wednesday that moves are afoot at the U.N. Security Council to complete a draft resolution on North Korea this week for adoption in two to three weeks' time.

Han made the remark at a meeting of lawmakers and local chapter heads from the ruling Democratic Liberal Party held at the Lawmakers Hall of the National Assembly.

The foreign minister's remarks are understood to signify that Pyongyang's withdrawal from the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] would cause the U.N. resolution to be advanced by one week from the original schedule.

With regard to China's position on sanctions against Pyongyang, Han said, "Intensive diplomatic efforts to win the constructive cooperation of China are underway. China is well aware that North Korea is accountable for the current critical situation of its nuclear row.

"Pyongyang's quitting the IAEA will not affect the status of the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT). Therefore, as long as North Korea does not quit the NPT, the nuclear safeguards accord and inspection obligations with the IAEA remain effective," he emphasized.

Premier: No Sign of 'Provocation' by DPRK

SK1506115594 Seoul YONHAP in English 1033 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Text] Seoul, June 15 (YONHAP)—Prime Minister Yi Yong-tok said on Wednesday he is positive North Korea will not dare to provoke a war against the South.

"Preparedness and morale on the part of our Armed Forces are higher than any other time in the past, who have the ability to crush any North Korean provocation," Yi said.

In an interview with the three major televisions in Seoul, the premier said that at the moment there is no sign of provocation or any unusual military movement in North

Korea. The prime minister said the fire power of the South Korean and U.S. Forces are enormous and the two countries maintain a close cooperative system.

"Today's civil defense drill was to check our security preparedness but the drill was not due to any growing danger of war," he said. The premier observed that North Korea seems trying to apply some shock therapies like the withdrawal from the International Atomic Energy Agency. "But, the strategy does not go the way they wish," he added.

UN: Panmunjom Tours Suspended for Renovations

SK1506010694 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 15 Jun 94 p 3

[Text] Tourist trips to the truce village of Panmunjom have been suspended this week because of repair work at a briefing room for tourists at the truce village, a UN Command (UNC) spokesman said yesterday. The spokesman said the suspension of trips has nothing to do with the tension fueled by the North Korean nuclear program.

"The briefing room for tourists who come to see Panmunjom and nearby underground tunnels dug by North Koreans is very old and we need to repair it," said Kim Yong-kyu of the UNC. "That's why tours to Panmunjom have been temporarily suspended. They will resume Monday," said Kim. He denied a news report that the suspension of the trips was related to the existing tensions.

Defense Minister—DPRK Tested Detonators

SK1506073294 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0600 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Text] Defense Minister Yi Pyong-tae said that signs have been detected through various sources that North Korea has recently been conducting tests for detonators of nuclear bombs. Defense Minister Yi Pyong-tae said this today at a meeting of Democratic Liberal Party lawmakers and local chapter chairmen. He said that although there were no signs of North Korea having conducted nuclear testing to determine the success of nuclear weapons development, he has obtained, from various sources, signs that North Korea has been conducting tests of detonators used in exploding nuclear bombs. Defense Minister Yi Pyong-tae said that North Korea must therefore have developed a nuclear explosion device at least to an elementary stage.

Regarding North Korea's recent military moves, Defense Minister Yi Pyong-tae said: North Korea has continued provocative demonstrations by conducting inspections assessing the combat-readiness of the entire armed forces under the supervision of the Ministry of People's Armed Forces since the middle of last April and by having its party Military Commission begin inspections confirming its war preparedness posture.

Defense Minister Yi said that in the event of North Korean provocation, the ROK will prevent it from spreading into an all-out war with an immediate and powerful counterattack. Saying that the Defense Ministry is keeping an eye on all the North Korean moves through thorough intelligence activities, he disclosed 13 military intelligence photographs of the North Korean area, including the radiochemical laboratory in Yongbyon.

KYODO Cited on IAEA Inspection in DPRK

SK1506100894 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0900 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Text] KYODO News Agency reported on 15 June from New York that regardless of the official notification to the United States on its withdrawal from the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA], North Korea is continuing to recognize nuclear inspection activities, such as the work to measure and regulate inspection machines by the two inspectors dispatched from the IAEA.

Quoting a U.S. Government official, KYODO News Agency reported that North Korea had hinted that it would expel the inspectors when it declared its withdrawal from the IAEA, but it seems that North Korea allowed inspection activities by the IAEA inspectors to avoid strong measures against the North by the international community, such as the strengthening of economic sanctions by the UN Security Council.

This official also said it is important that the inspectors carry out activities, not that they are still in North Korea. He hinted that the content of the sanction resolution against the North will be influenced if the inspectors are expelled.

He also said that as long as North Korea allows the inspectors to continue inspection activities, sanctions by the UN Security Council will not be strengthened abruptly. In particular, he said that the withdrawal from the IAEA and the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT] by North Korea are significantly different, and emphasized that it is necessary for North Korea to implement the requirements of the NPT. Thus, he did not attach much importance to the fact that North Korea withdrew from the IAEA.

U.S. Shifts Into 'Top Gear' for Intelligence

SK1506032394 Seoul YONHAP in English 0316 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Text] Seoul, June 15 (YONHAP)—South Korea and the United States have shifted into top gear to conduct joint intelligence surveillance of North Korean military activities, sources at the Defense Ministry said Wednesday.

The allied forces took the action after determining that the chances of an unexpected military provocation by North Korea are high following its withdrawal from the International Atomic Energy Agency, the sources said.

The United States is expected to increase the intensity of a draft resolution on U.N. sanctions against North Korea. Pyongyang has said it would regard the imposition of sanctions as an act of war.

Defense Minister Yi Pyong-tae said last week that South Korean and U.S. military forces have completed preparations for three possible stages—the beginning of sanctions, limited North Korean provocations and an all-out war.

The intelligence surveillance operation would go into full operation if and when sanctions were imposed, Yi said.

At present, the United States and South Korea have deployed U-2R reconnaissance aircraft, E-3C early warning planes, KH-9 spy satellites and all other possible means to monitor North Korean movements around the clock while thoroughly analyzing the pictures and information gathered, the sources said.

Washington has already sent military analysts and intelligence officials to South Korea to support the operation, they added.

The South Korean military, meanwhile, is rechecking its decision- making system in order to meet possible limited provocations by North Korea, and strengthening the defense of public and government buildings and facilities and military command posts that could be targeted in a North Korean attack, they said.

Group Urges U.S. Not To Foment 'War Atmosphere'

SK1506115094 Seoul YONHAP in English 0932 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Text] Seoul, June 15 (YONHAP)—The Citizens Coalition for Economic Justice on Wednesday asked the United States to stop making acts of fomenting a "war atmosphere" on the Korean peninsula for the sake of its own national interests.

In a statement it issued in connection with the North Korean nuclear question, the coalition stressed that the Untied States should refrain from making provocative remarks such as "military sanctions being considered."

"In particular, the United States should not take any military actions that could be regarded by North Korea as the provocation of a war," it said.

Emphasizing that no fratricidal war should recur between the same people, the coalition said the South Korean Government should display the intent of resolving the matter through dialogue while North Korea should ensure nuclear transparency under the basic South-North agreement.

DPRK Official Claims U.S. Once Agreed to Pullout

SK1506114694 Seoul YONHAP in English 1123 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Text] Paris, June 15 (YONHAP)—The United States had accepted the principle of U.S. military withdrawal from South Korea in a "secret agreement" signed with North Korea last February, the French daily LIBERATION quoting a senior North Korean official here reported Wednesday.

The report said that the official, Pak Tong-chun, head of the North Korean mission in Paris, claimed that Washington accepted the principle of pulling 37,000 American troops out of South Korea under the frame of a "secret" bilateral agreement which was agreed in December 1993 in New York and concluded last February.

"The United States asked us not to leak this, but they breached all the promises later," Pak was quoted as saying.

The daily said Pak failed to produce any evidence and a spokesman for the U.S. State Department declined a comment on Pak's allegation.

Meanwhile, in an interview with the INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE, Pak denied North Korea's nuclear development but said his country is prepared to wage a war if it is necessary to safeguard "our essential national interests." He said that any North Korean attack on the United States, China or Japan with nuclear weapons would be a suicidal act. "We cannot even think of attacking South Korea, our same people," Pak told the TRIBUNE.

Asserting that the United States had invented all problems like the theory of North Korean attack simply to justify their presence in South Korea, Pak said that North Korea has reached the limit of patience and has no intent of making concessions any further.

Former U.S. President Carter Visits ROK, DPRK

Reportedly Carrying Package Deal Offer

SK1506004994 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0000 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Correspondent Yi Chong-su's report from Washington]

[Text] It has been learned that former U.S. President Carter, who will visit North Korea today, has a nonofficial package offer to solve the North Korean nuclear issue and U.S.-North Korean relations simultaneously.

In an interview with the Korean Broadcasting System, KBS, today a U.S. scholar, who has reportedly played a behind-the-scenes role for former U.S. President Carter's visit to North Korea, revealed that former President Carter's nonofficial package offer contains the improvement of U.S.-North Korean relations and the measures for guaranteeing the overall security of the Korean peninsula in return for guaranteeing North Korea's nuclear transparency.

This scholar, who did not want to be identified, said that if former President Carter achieved no success in his visit to North Korea this time, public opinion in the United States would quickly turn toward imposing sanctions against North Korea within or without the framework of the United Nations.

Kim Yong-sam, Carter Discuss DPRK

SK1406131994 Seoul YONHAP in English 1314 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Seoul, June 14 (YONHAP)—President Kim Yong-sam conferred with former U.S. President Jimmy Carter at Chongwadae [presidential offices] Tuesday evening on ways to resolve the North Korean nuclear question.

Carter is set to visit Pyongyang Wednesday morning through Panmunjom to discuss the nuclear issue with the North Korean leadership.

During the talks over dinner that lasted two and half an hours, President Kim pointed out that the nuclear question has arrived at a critical stage because of Pyongyang's announced withdrawal from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

A source said the president explained to Carter about the Seoul government's firm stance toward the nuclear situation.

President Kim reiterated that North Korea's nuclear development should be thwarted by all means and that if Pyongyang presses ahead with nuclear development, sanctions through the United Nations would be unavoidable, he said.

The source said that President Kim asked the former U.S. President to convey Seoul's concern and position with regard to North Korea's announced withdrawal from the IAEA, and to successfully persuade the North Koreans to respond affirmatively to international demands.

Former President Carter was learned to have explained about the purpose of his visit to Pyongyang and promised to relay Seoul's position to Pyongyang correctly.

After the meeting, Chongwadae spokesman Chu Ton-sik said the meeting was held in an amicable atmosphere, adding, however, that Kim and Carter decided not to disclose the contents of their talks.

According to Chu, Carter said he would not discuss his mission prior to his visit to Pyongyang, but would explain about the feelings he would have during his talks with North Korean leaders when he returns to Seoul from the North.

On Wednesday morning, Carter would meet Deputy Prime Minister Yi Hong-ku before leaving for Pyongyang via Panmunjom.

He would return to Seoul Saturday morning and meet with President Kim.

Carter Meets Unification Minister

SK1506013994 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0100 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Text] Yi Hong-ku, deputy prime minister in charge of unification, had a breakfast meeting with former U.S. President Carter, who is visiting the ROK, and was briefed by President Carter regarding his planned activities in North Korea. Deputy Prime Minister Yi Hong-ku reportedly asked President Carter to exert efforts to enable North Korea to clear up nuclear suspicions and join in the international community.

Former President Carter will visit North Korea from 15 to 18 June and will have talks with North Korean President Kim Il-song and others.

Carter Enters DPRK Via Panmunjom

SK1506030694 Seoul YONHAP in English 0259 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Text] Seoul, June 15 (YONHAP)—Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter crossed through the heavily fortified border village of Panmunjom Wednesday on his way to Pyongyang for talks with North Korean leader Kim Il-song, hoping to find a solution to the nuclear crisis without the United Nations having to resort to sanctions.

He met with Deputy Premier and Minister of the National Unification Board (NUB) Yi Hong-ku earlier in the morning before heading for Pyongyang via Panmunjom.

Carter also met with President Kim Yong-sam and Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu Tuesday.

The former U.S. leader is scheduled to meet with North Korean President Kim Il-song Wednesday evening and will likely convey the international community's concern over Pyongyang's replacement of nuclear fuel rods and abrupt withdrawal from the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA].

He also plans to inform Kim Il-song of Seoul's and Washington's firm position that if Pyongyang does not accept IAEA inspections, United Nations sanctions are inevitable.

Carter, however, is likely to emphasize that if North Korea guarantees nuclear transparency, it can improve its relations with the United States and receive economic support from various countries, a diplomatic source said.

The former president plans to stay in Pyongyang four days before returning to Seoul via Panmunjom Saturday to brief President Kim Yong-sam on the results of his talks.

He will later hold a press conference to discuss his meeting with Kim Il-song before departing from Seoul.

Further on Carter's Crossover

SK1506055994 Seoul YONHAP in English 0539 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Text] Panmunjom, June 15 (YONHAP)—Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter and his wife Rosalyn arrived in the truce village of Panmunjom around 10:10 A.M. Wednesday and were taken to Peace House on the Southern side of the border by American Ambassador James Laney for a 30-minute break before the big crossover.

They were led into the Military Armistice Commission (MAC) conference room at 10:50 A.M., pulling up in a motorcade of four vehicles. The former President, clad in a dark grey suit, emerged from a Cadillac with his wife and waved to the press without answering any questions.

Showing some emotion as he stopped at the Military Demarcation Line, which is only about 5cm in width, Carter waved at both halves of the divided peninsula for a few minutes.

—Carter came to Seoul once before—in June 1979 when he stayed overnight at Camp Casey—but this was his first visit to Panmunjom.

The former U.S. leader will make history of sorts by becoming the first person to go to the North via Panmunjom and return to Seoul, again via the truce village.

Previous foreign visitors, including U.S. Rep. Gary Ackerman and U.N. Secretary-general Butrus Butrus-Ghali, had all passed through Panmunjom to enter North Korea but flew out directly from Pyongyang to Beijing.

—Pak Im-su, deputy chief liaison officer, and two others came down from the North Korean side to greet Carter.

Forrest Chilton, U.N. secretary to MAC, introduced Carter to Pak and the former President headed to the Northern side after a brief entry procedure.

The ex-first couple posed for the media—CNN, China's XINHUA news agency and Russia's TASS—again in front of Panmungak on the northern side.

—The mood was unusually tense on the southern side because of the status of the former U.S. President, according to Seoul officials.

"He may be an ex-President, but the U.S. side is providing security as if he were an incumbent," said one official. "A mobile task force is waiting within one minute's running distance."

Inside sources pointed to a significant increase in the number of security officials from both the South Korean and American military.

Two officials from the U.S. Presidential Security Office reportedly entered North Korea Monday for a prior safety check, attesting to the tight preparations by the U.S. side.

The vice director of the International Department at the North's Nodong Party, Song Ho-kyong, was spotted on a stairway about 30 meters from the demarcation line as part of Pyongyang's welcoming committee. He remained aloof until he saw Carter arrive in Panmunjom, then trotted down the stairs to welcome him.

—The Carters had to send their luggage ahead two hours in advance after regular customs clearance. Officials said the procedure was the same as airport customs clearance, conducted by customs officials specially dispatched for the day.

Later, Chilton made a brief announcement that Carter had successfully entered North Korea at the end of the crossover.

He said the South had asked the North to guarantee the former President's safety at the demarcation line, and North Korea readily agreed.

Carter, Kim Il-song Meet

SK1506145994 Seoul KBS-1 Television Network in Korean 1206 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Text] Former U.S. President Carter, who went to North Korea via Panmunjom, met North Korean President Kim Il-song just a few minutes ago. Following is a report by Cho Tal-ung:

[Begin Cho Tal-ung recording] Before holding a meeting with North Korean President Kim Il-song, former U.S. President Carter was received by Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam. Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam welcomed former U.S. President Carter by using the expression my old friend, as if he was an old friend.

It was learned that former U.S. President Carter, who is in North Korea, met North Korean President Kim Il-song this evening and exchanged basic positions regarding the North Korean nuclear issue. Concrete contents of the talks, however, has not been revealed. It seems that in today's talks only a principled position was conveyed and opinions on concrete matters were not exchanged.

Western sources view that while staying in Pyongyang for three nights and four days, after exchanging views on multifaceted measures with the high-ranking leaders of North Korea to resolve the North Korean nuclear issue, former President Carter will meet with President Kim Il-song again to carry out a final negotiation.

Former President Carter arrived in Panmunjom at 1010 [0110 GMT] with his wife Rosalyn and his entourage by car and after a brief entry procedure, they went to the North by riding in 16 cars after being guided by North Korea Deputy Foreign Minister Song Ho-kyong at Panmunjak. After arriving in Pyongyang, former President Carter was welcomed by Foreign Minister Kim Yongnam and they talked for a moment. Then he was guided to the state guest house.

Former President Carter and his entourage will return to Seoul on 18 June via Panmunjom and explain to President Kim Yong-sam the result of his visit to North Korea and leave Seoul after holding a news conference summing up his visit to South and North Korea. [end recording]

Chongwadae 'Closely Watching' Carter's Visit

SK1506054494 Seoul YONHAP in English 0535 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Text] Seoul, June 15 (YONHAP)—Chongwadae [presidential offices] is closely watching Jimmy Carter's visit to North Korea, concerned that Pyongyang may utilize the former U.S. President's meeting with strongman Kim Il-song for propaganda purposes both at home and abroad as well as for a political compromise.

A knowledgeable source said Wednesday that if Carter is greeted by North Korean Vice Foreign Minister Song Ho-kyong at Panmunjom, it might be a North Korean tactic to turn his visit into a political negotiation between Washington and Pyongyang. The source pointed out that "We have to watch with concern how the high-ranking official greets him at Panmunjom."

He said, "North Korea has made it a rule to greet former heads of state through the chairman or staff of the Committee for Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries." He speculated that having a Foreign Ministry official meet Carter at Panmunjom would signal political negotiation rather than a cordial reception.

As to reports that Chinese President Jiang Zemin refused to discuss the North Korean nuclear problem with President Clinton over the phone, he explained, "China seems discontent that Pyongyang has not consulted beforehand with it on the announcement to quit the International Atomic Energy Agency."

Kim Yong-sam Orders Security Briefings

SK1506031094 Seoul YONHAP in English 0302 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Text] Seoul, June 15 (YONHAP)—President Kim Yong-sam on Wednesday instructed the Foreign and Defense Ministries to provide daily press briefings on day-to-day changes in major international issues and the nation's security situation.

Kim ordered the daily briefings in view of the need to alleviate the people's sense of insecurity amid growing uncertainty over the nation's security, Presidential Press Secretary Chu Ton-sik said.

In accordance with the instructions, the Foreign Ministry will conduct press briefings on developments in the nuclear and other issues at the United Nations, as well as other major international affairs, while the Defense Ministry will brief the media on the military situation in North Korea and the nation's defense preparedness, Chu said.

Kim Yong-sam Expresses Confidence in Security

SK1506075694 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0700 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Text] President Kim Yong-sam stressed today that the government is fully prepared to handle any provocation from North Korea.

At Chongwadae [presidential offices] today, President Kim held a meeting with businessmen, including the presidents of finance institutions. There he pointed out that the people's insensitivity to national security is a problem. At the same time, however, people should not be uneasy about national security. He also stressed that, as the president, he should safeguard the state and defend people's lives and property and he has been mapping out solid countermeasures to be fully prepared to ward off any provocation from North Korea. People may have trust in the president and government.

President Kim expressed strong confidence in national security by stating: We can handle, in a brief space of time, a provocation from North Korea because the government is maintaining an unprecedentedly solid system of cooperation between the ROK and the United States; because the government is maintaining an around-the-clock system to watch the North; because the morale in the military is higher than ever before as politically oriented soldiers have been removed; and because our firing power and maneuverability are in an excellent status.

President Kim made it clear once again: The government is coping with the matters related to the North on the basis of the great principle that North Korea should not possess nuclear capability and that peace on the Korean peninsula should be maintained. Although North Korea is showing an unstable and shocking attitude toward the United States through withdrawing from the International Atomic Energy Agency, all of their strategies are not working as they planned.

President Kim predicted that the countries concerned at the UN Security Council are now fine-tuning the wording of sanctions against North Korea. They will put sanctions into action in two or three weeks after they complete their consultations on the intensity of the sanctions. They will heighten the intensity of sanctions gradually.

President Kim asked the financiers to make efforts, equipped with confidence in national security, to achieve this year's goal of 6 percent economic growth, to keep the increase in commodity prices under 6 percent, and to achieve an annual export goal of $90 billion.

Presidential Office Counters Public Anxiety

SK1506072594 Seoul YONHAP in English 0700 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Text] Seoul, June 15 (YONHAP)—The presidential office has gone on alert—this time not to counter North Korea but to soothe a South Korean public shaken by the shadow of war.

The stock market plummeted over 19 points Tuesday on the announcement of North Korea's withdrawal from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and Pyongyang's pledge to go to war if necessary in case of U.N. sanctions.

Food hoarding has begun as anxious shoppers thronged supermarkets to stock up on groceries and the country held a large-scale mock war drill on Wednesday.

The presidential office has made an inner judgement, based on around-the-clock monitoring of the North Korean military and the border, that there are no clear signs of a coming war. But presidential aides decided it was time to take action when food hoarding and other signs of creeping war anxiety emerged this week.

Chief Secretary Pak Kwan-yong called in all senior presidential aides for a meeting Wednesday morning to seek input on how to provide assurances on the country's security capabilities while administering a dose of reality on imminent U.N. sanctions against North Korea.

Presidential spokesman Chu Ton-sik said after the meeting that all participants agreed sanctions will not lead to immediate war as North Korea has suggested, but that they are a means to draw Pyongyang back to the negotiating table to resolve the nuclear crisis.

In other words, they decided the people must realize that North Korean leader Kim Il-song and his regime will resort to dialogue only when they are taken to the edge of the cliff, Chu said.

At the same time, they wanted to build up public confidence and the government's credibility in terms of national security, he said.

"Some people are buying up instant noodles and rice because they are inclined more toward the North Korean war rhetoric that sanctions mean immediate war," said the spokesman. "We want to convince the people that although the public and the government do stand ready for the possibility of war, they have to behave calmly so that they don't jumble up the entire distribution network."

But equally important, the public must be made to understand the exact situation on the Korean peninsula and what is happening on the North Korean nuclear problem so that they can be ready for even a 0.1 percent chance of war, according to officials.

The sources said the meeting's participants held the foreign media partly responsible for South Koreans' war anxiety, citing the arrival of special news teams to cover the tense situation and exaggerated coverage of what is really going on.

President Kim Yong-sam personally instructed the Foreign and Defense ministries to keep reporters briefed on all changes so they can relay the news to the public, and the two ministries are expected to carry out the instruction from Thursday.

JCS Chief Cited on Armed Forces Readiness

SK1406233394 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0833 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] This is a military news report.

The 1994 reserve generals' advisory council meeting was held on 14 June at the War Buddies' Hall in the War Memorial, where some 200 people participated, including Yi Yang-ho, chief of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; high-ranking Armed Forces leaders; and reserve generals of the Army, Navy, and the Air Force.

The meeting was held to discuss pending military issues through explanations about the National Defense policy and the latest North Korean military situation. Our Armed Forces' military readiness posture related to North Korea's nuclear issue and major national defense policies were discussed at the meeting.

In a speech delivered prior to today's meeting, General Yi said: Under the circumstances in which tension is mounting on the Korean peninsula because of the latest North Korea's nuclear issue, our Armed Forces are completely equipped with military preparedness on the basis of the ROK-U.S. military relations.

General Yi continued to say: The issue of redeeming the peacetime operational command right—on which an agreement was reached between high-ranking military officials concerned of the ROK and the United States last year—seems to be settled before the end of this year. We are planning to develop the Armed Forces through the promotion of military exchanges and cooperation with neighboring nations.

(Cho Song-tae), chief of the Policy-making Office of the Ministry of National Defense, said that our Armed Forces' military preparedness related to North Korea's nuclear issue is solid. He added that we are mapping out all military countermeasures against an emergency on the basis of the ROK-U.S. combined military capability.

Cho analyzed: North Korea is now suffering from triple hardships—an unrest inside its own system, an economic crisis, and an international isolation brought about by the nuclear issue. To solve these problems, North Korea is capable of launching an accidental provocation at any time. Our Armed Forces are building up military preparedness to give immediate punishment against this.

In today's meeting, the director of the Intelligence on North Korea Department and the director of the Strategic Planning Department of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Headquarters gave explanations about pending military tasks and also had in-depth discussions with the participants.

Defense Minister on Preparing for 'Provocation'

SK1506055594 Seoul YONHAP in English 0548 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Text] Seoul, June 15 (YONHAP)—The South Korean Government is devising a strong punitive and retaliatory strategy against possible military provocation by North Korea in case the UN Security Council slaps economic sanctions on Pyongyang, Defense Minister Yi Pyong-tae said Wednesday.

Speaking at a meeting of Democratic Liberal Party lawmakers and local chapter chairmen, Yi said North Korea had completed war preparations by July 27, 1993, stockpiling military supplies and expanding and strengthening underground facilities after forming a separate war preparation command.

Yi said, however, there were no particular signs of North Korean military movements related to possible provocation at present.

The government is strengthening the country's military preparedness in stages while drawing up joint defense strategy with the U.S. Forces, Yi said.

He also said that North Korea is believed to have extracted enough plutonium to make one or two nuclear weapons. Although it is not certain if the North has a complete nuclear bomb, he said he could not rule out the possibility of Pyongyang having developed a primitive explosive device.

With regard to military cooperation between the United States and South Korea in case of North Korean provocation, Yi said he and his U.S. counterpart are in constant contact through a hot line. Moreover, he said the two countries are ready to hold urgent security and military conferences in times of emergency.

Civil Defense Exercise Conducted Nationwide

SK1506053994 Seoul YONHAP in English 0531 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Text] Seoul, June 15 (YONHAP)—A civil defense exercise, including an air-raid drill, was conducted for 20 minutes across the country Wednesday afternoon.

In view of the tension over North Korea's nuclear program, the exercise stressed war preparedness for the first time since 1992, when the focus was shifted to preparations for such disasters as floods and earthquakes.

In Seoul, an air-raid siren sounded at 2:00 P.M. and a yellow smoke bomb was set off in front of the Daewoo building at 2:05, indicating that the building had been "hit" by a chemical bomb.

Toxicity fighting units rushed to the building and ambulances and first-aid teams evacuated 30 "injured" people from the building to eight hospitals, including the Red Cross hospital.

At 2:08, black smoke spewed from the building's third and ninth floors, indicating they had been hit by bombs. Fire trucks brought the blaze under control while rescue teams evacuated people from the building with ropes. Destroyed power and telephone lines and water pipes were repaired immediately.

Participating in the air-raid drill at the building were 33 vehicles, including 16 fire trucks and nine ambulances, 400 civil servants and Daewoo civil defense corps members.

Other people in the building were evacuated to its basements.

In addition, a vehicular traffic control drill took place on a road near Chungnang-chon River, assuming that the road had been inundated.

No military aircraft, such as helicopters, were used in the exercise because of inconvenience caused to citizens and for fear that North Korea would use the move in its anti-South propaganda offensive, officials said.

Government Begins Monitoring Prices of Basic Goods

SK1506014594 Seoul YONHAP in English 0133 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Text] Seoul, June 15 (YONHAP)—The government, expecting that the tension over North Korea's withdrawal from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) will drag on, has begun monitoring the prices of basic consumer goods such as rice, ramyon (instant noodles) and jewelry, as well as the stock market, every day. No hoarding of daily necessities has yet been observed, but the supply shortages and resulting runaway inflation expected from a steep escalation in tension would throw the economy into confusion, officials said Wednesday. To prepare for an emergency, the government has started checking fluctuations of consumer prices and the supply and demand of key consumer goods on a daily basis, they added.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries is monitoring the prices of rice and other farm products, the Ministry of Finance and the Bank of Korea movements in the financial markets such as interest rates, withdrawals, share prices and foreign investment, the ministry of trade, industry and energy the prices of manufactured goods, and the Ministry of Transportation foreign tourist arrivals.

No unusual price movements for such items as rice and ham have been detected, the Economic Planning Board said.

The government has started daily price checks in preparation for unexpected developments after North Korea bolted from the IAEA, but nothing unusual has been observed so far, a board official said.

The government's daily checks come as tensions are expected to rise in the wake of North Korea's abrupt withdrawal, he added. In case the situation worsens and the economy weakens, the government will set in motion an emergency system.

Purchases of food, fuel, first-aid drugs, flashlights and candles for emergencies are increasing and some prices are on the rise.

Ruling Party Issues Statement on DPRK Issue

SK1506024294 Seoul YONHAP in English 0223 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Text] Seoul, June 15 (YONHAP)—The ruling Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] urged the government Wednesday to forge an independent nuclear policy, including re-examination of the Joint Declaration on Denuclearization of the Korean peninsula.

The appeal was contained in an announcement on the party's basic position and policy on the North Korean nuclear dispute. The DLP issued the statement after a meeting of party lawmakers and local chapter chairmen in the morning.

It was the first time the ruling party has enunciated the need to form an independent nuclear policy and reconsider the denuclearization declaration.

Heated debate has occurred among segments in the ruling party and the Kim Yong-sam administration over whether South Korea must take another look at the declaration as North Korea has been systematically and impudently violating the declaration.

In a statement read by DLP spokesman Pak Pom-chin, the ruling party again urged Pyongyang to implement the inter-Korean accords and the Denuclearization Declaration issued Dec. 31, 1991.

"North Korea should also stop developing nuclear weapons immediately and in order to prove it, it should retract its decision to withdraw from the International Atomic Energy Agency," Pak said.

The DLP is urging North Korea to accept unconditional and comprehensive IAEA inspections not only to maintain nuclear transparency in the future but also to assist international efforts to determine its nuclear activities in the past, the spokesman said.

The DLP statement asked the international community to cooperate in U.N. sanctions against North Korea aimed at resolving the nuclear dispute. Addressing the Kim administration, the statement said the government should prepare thoroughly for the effective execution of sanctions within the framework of international rules and the United Nations.

The party said the country ought to establish law and order and tight national security by liquidating "left-leaning" forces, including the radical student organization Hanchongnyon, which are "openly and publicly supporting the North's dictatorial regime under an anachronistic illusion and without realizing the changes taking place worldwide."

In addition, the party expressed concern that if national policy on the North Korean nuclear dispute is divided in a crisis, it may induce a misjudgement on the part of the Pyongyang regime.

All South Koreans should unite against the North's ambition to conquer by force and communize the South, the statement said.

Earlier in the meeting, DLP leaders received reports from Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu and Defense Minister Yi Pyong-tae on the U.S.- drafted sanctions resolution and military activities in the North.

Parties Pledge End of 'Political Strife'

SK1506072794 Seoul YONHAP in English 0704 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Text] Seoul, June 15 (YONHAP)—The leaders of two splinter parties called Wednesday for an end to government-opposition political strife until the nuclear row with North Korea is settled.

In a joint statement issued that day, Chairman Kim Tong-kil of the United People's Party and Chairman Park Chan-chong of the New Political Reform Party also urged social organizations to halt internal strife and concentrate on easing the tension over North Korea's suspected nuclear arms program.

They warned that Pyongyang's withdrawal from the International Atomic Energy Agency would lead to "a dangerous consequence of threatening to break the peace and security on the Korean peninsula," urging the North to "suspend all military intimidation and resume inter-Korean dialogue for a peaceful solution of the nuclear problem."

The government should establish a national consensus on how to overcome the crisis before the inter-Korean confrontation over the nuclear issue leads to a tragic result, they said, calling for an emergency national meeting on the current situation and an inter-Korean summit.

They charged that the government's fickle and unprincipled policy has pushed the nuclear issue to a critical phase and that President Kim Yong-sam is partly responsible as he has wavered from the basic principle of Seoul's North Korea policy.

Newspaper Examines Left-Leaning Movements

SK1306100194 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 11 Jun 94 p 5

[Article by reporters Chong Chol-kon and Yi Hun-pom: "Left-Leaning Trend in Student and Labor Movements Causes Worries"]

[Text] In addition to the recent investigation of core members of the National Federation of University Student Councils [Hanchongnyon], the prosecutor's office and police began to investigate dissident and labor movements that are carrying out procommunist acts benefiting the enemy. This being the recent situation, the people are seriously worried about left-leaning procommunist forces. These forces, who were held back in the past, have become active recently. People pointed out this is the result of relaxed anticommunist consciousness and of failure to properly implement the functions of public security organizations since the civilian government was inaugurated. This paper carries an in-depth examination of the true aspects of the "left-leaning procommunist forces" in our society, as well as of the failure in public security functions.

As clearly elucidated by party Secretary Kim Chong-il in his work, "Historic Experiences in Socialist Construction and Our Party's General Line: Let us have a sense of confidence to enter a new stage of socialist construction by firmly maintaining the chuche cause expelling all challenges at home and abroad." This article, which reminds one of a teaching of the North Korean Workers' Party, was carried in a document of the Hanchongnyon's Central Standing Committee last February.

Even though the entire student movement has been recently weakened, the prosecutor office's and police have launched a roundup of core members of Hanchongnyon because they accept North Korean allegations without questions and because their "ideological radicalism" has deepened.

Besides, this year the student movement has launched a powerful offensive against the incumbent regime, unlike last year. This worked as a factor that keyed up public security authorities, whose main mission is to maintain public order and stability of the system.

The 1994 document of Hanchongnyon's deputies defined the incumbent regime as a "colonial regime with subordinative and a comprador nature to the U.S. imperialists." Thus, public security authorities observe that the degree of attack on the present regime has strengthened remarkably compared to that in the early stage of the civilian government.

It is a general view that such "ideological radicalism" of the student movement has deepened since the collapse of Eastern Europe.

So-called Marxism-Leninism believers and the chuche idea faction [Chusapa]—two leading factions of the student movement in the 1980's—have been unable to clearly explain the collapse of the socialist camp with existing theories.

This being the case, the Marxist-Leninist camp developed a "Trotsky faction," which inherited Trotsky's idea, Russia's communist, on international communism, while Chusapa's ideological dependence on Kim Il-song's chuche idea has been deepened.

"The Revolutionary International Socialist Workers Union" [Hyoksano]—a transformed Marxist-Leninist faction—was formed in November 1992. Since Hyoksano was formed, it organized regional committees in Seoul, Ulsan, Masan, and Changwon, and branch chapters in Inchon and Anyang. Thus, it has a nationwide organizational system.

Hyoksano even dispatched its members to the consultation office for foreign workers located in Kurodong, Seoul, and propagandized the idea of international communism to the illegal foreign workers. Thus, Hyoksano is keenly interested in international solidarity of socialist workers.

The prosecutor's office arrested 11 major class members of Hyoksano in November 1993. However, the people view that the forces of this organization, which has a deep and firm foundation in labor circles, have not been completely eliminated.

In particular, the prosecutor's office revealed that North Korean revolutionary songs, including "The Fatherland Is One," were among the songs sung by the workers of the "K" industrial firm in Inchon during their strike, and 170 out of 366 leaflets spread in industrial sites last year propagandized the socialist revolutionary idea, going beyond the limit of the average workers movement. Thus, the prosecutor's office believes that left-leaning ideology is expanding.

Meanwhile, the Chusapa, which is leading the student movement, maintains that the collapse of Eastern Europe is an inevitable result of following Marxism-Leninism without criticism, and to solve this problem, people should assume the chuche idea as an ideological base.

"Let us decorate the anti-U.S. and antiwar struggle with victory with indomitable spirit, and achieve the brilliant cause of great national unity amid the fierce wind of a confederal system."

This is the content of leaflets spread during the meeting of unification forerunners in Suwon campus of Kyonghui University last March. As shown in their leaflets, the students use the exact same words as North Korea.

The result of the prosecutor's office investigation of documents confiscated from Hanchongnyon's planning department last April shows that the recordings of the "Voice of National Salvation," North Korea's clandestine broadcasting network directed at South Korea, numbered more than half of the total of 149, and that most of the leaflets they spread were reproductions of North Korean allegations.

People also point out that animation of the movement of some "left-leaning procommunist" forces is a result of the curtailment of public security functions. Thus, the people call for "early recovery" of public security functions.

It is true that the Agency for National Security Planning, the prosecutor's office, the police, and other public security-related agencies dealing with procommunist criminals, were criticized as an advance guard for security of the regime and as a means to suppress democratic movements under the authoritarian governments in the past. The scale of these organizations was also expanded according to the degree of necessity for maintaining their political system.

However, since the civilian government was inaugurated, the number of student movement organizations has decreased, and dissident figures, who carried out antigovernment struggles, have now joined the government, thus changing the atmosphere. As a result, consciousness of the importance of public security has been relatively weakened, and each public security office reduced its staff or transferred its members to public welfare and intelligence fields.

Public security-related officials candidly admit that because of this atmosphere, investigators in the anticommunist domain almost suspended their operation until Hanchongnyon's procommunist acts benefiting the enemy became an issue.

The number of criminals who were detained on charges of violating the National Security Law was 449 in 1990; 320 in 1991, and 305 in 1992. However, as if to prove the security-related officials' remarks, the number of criminals drastically decreased to 122 in 1993 when the civilian government was inaugurated. As of late May this year, 69 figures are detained.

Reduction in the number of detainees reflects the gradual disappearance of cases in which public security authorities unreasonably applied laws and regulations, and curtailment of the overall movement. On the other hand, this means that the morale of anticommunist investigators declined because security-related authorities were treated lightly and accordingly, their investigations were passive.

The investigators complain that with the demoted position of security-related offices, they can hardly carry out even essential investigations.

A security-related official in the prosecutor's office said that it is true that the past regimes abused public security to maintain security of the regime, and carried out unreasonable investigations. As a result, disputes over human rights violations took place ceaselessly, and people held unfavorable views about security- related authorities. However, since the times have changed, consciousness of the authorities and people should also change. Besides, support for security-related offices should increase so public security functions can actively cope with recent left-leaning procommunist movements.

* Tighter Control of Secret Information Urged

942C0074A Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 28 Jan 94 p 5

[Article by Chon Yuk, CHUNGANG ILBO managing editor: "Are State Secrets Protected Properly?"]

[Text] Every power struggle or international competition involves a fierce intelligence war. Therefore, how a state or organization steals or protects secrets demonstrates its overall management ability. And it often serves as a key factor determining victory or defeat.

In the Sixth Republic era, President No Tae-u and Kim Yong-sam, then chairman of the Democratic Liberal Party [DLP], frequently waged such war against each other. The first confrontation came in about April 1990, shortly after the three-party merger. At the time, Pak Chol-on, then minister of state, who was wielding real power as President No's virtual alter ego, fired the first shot with his remark: "If I open my mouth ...." Kim Yong-sam responded by facing President No at Chongwadae over a Manila envelope he carried with him. Taking out a document from the envelope, he said to the president, "Such covert operations against me...! I might as well take to the streets and die at the hands of people, but not at your and your men's hands."

The document he pulled out was a top-secret plan concerning a so-called operation to incapacitate YS [Kim Yong-sam], which President No had been briefed about by So Tong-kwon, director of the Agency for National Security Planning [NSP], a few days earlier and which he asked his chief secretary, No Chae-pong, to study. The president was so shocked that he sent for his physician following YS's departure. NSP Director So lost face with the president and No Chae-pong, the chief secretary, came under a secret NSP investigation. Chongwadae staff would recall that the incident made President No realize, with fear, YS's terrible destructive power for the first time.

In another round, YS found himself the loser. In the summer of 1991, he went to Cheju, ostensibly on vacation. While there, he staged, in part openly, a demonstration demanding an early nomination by the president for him as the DLP's presidential candidate. President No had repeatedly cautioned YS to refrain from raising issues relating to a political agenda as the president still had 19 months to serve. And this defiance by YS infuriated the president.

President No called in YS, who had just returned from Cheju, to show him a document—a list of campaign pledges prepared by a research institute run by YS' close aide. The list began with "I will thoroughly liquidate the military culture."

"Do you think that you should be allowed to do things like this already?" President No demanded. The revelation enraged YS. He summoned the aide and told him to "get lost—to America or wherever."

There was a time YS implicitly showed off his information gathering power to President No. In about September 1991, when Chongwadae and the NSP were unaware of opposition merger negotiations under way between Kim Tae-chung and Yi Ki-taek, the president heard for the first time what was going on from YS at one of their weekly meetings. The result was that the president took action against the NSP officials concerned, censuring them for the blunder. "No one knows better about Kim Tae-chung than I do," said YS to the president, with evident pride.

Leaks of secrets in the Sixth Republic were so bad that people called the Administration a "water-like government." Former President Chon Tu-hwan, then in exile at Paektamsa, a Buddhist temple, was fully aware of visible and invisible pressures which Chongwadae and the NSP were then applying on him.

A typical case was the "Lake Leman plan" designed to banish Mr. Chon overseas against his wishes to return to his Yonhuidong home. Upon discovering the plan, Mr. Chon, taking it as the last straw, phoned to President No protesting vehemently. He also kept a recording of the telephone conversation.

Espionage war like this waged between the present and former state leaders shows how easily core secrets and information of the government can be leaked in a climate that mixes up public and private interests. At the same time, it raises concern over the fact that our state secrets are being utilized more as tool of internal power struggle than for national security, because the loophole can lead to leaks of national security secrets.

Chongwadae is said to be extremely sensitive to security these days in the wake of a secret visit to Korea of James Woolsey, director of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), which was exposed by press photos. There was also a case of a Korean military officer on active duty leaking military secrets to a Japanese correspondent. In yet another case, information on a top-secret strategic process in the North-South dialogue was exposed by an opposition assemblyman. Chongwadae's concern over the continued divulgences is understandable.

It is a matter of course that each nation has its secrets that, for the sake of protecting and preserving its security and interests, cannot be divulged to others. Especially in advanced countries, national security and diplomatic secrets, confidential internal memos and personnel regulations of administrative organizations, and business and personal secrets are strictly excluded from the objects of the freedom of information by law. At the same time, there are established criteria governing what are state secrets and who should protect them, as well as the balance of the freedom of information and that of speech.

In comparison, Korea seems to have many problems with its management of state secrets, in principle and in ability. Deplorable indeed are abuses of such secrets for the mere convenience of the ruler, the slack discipline and the lack of ethical standards in this country, as seen in the Sixth Republic case of a Chongwadae senior presidential secretary for diplomatic and security affairs—a symbol of national security itself—who could easily seek asylum overseas.

If the present civilian government can restore the control of state secrets to where it belongs by correcting the flaws and disorder of the Sixth Republic, and without curtailing the people's right to know, the accomplishment will by itself save the regime from criticism of "incompetency."

It can be said that the teaching of Han Feizi that "plans succeed when secrets are kept, conspiracies fail when secrets leak" is a wise saying touching at the cardinal point of information control capability.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Mahathir Views Sabah Parties, Coalition

BK1406150394 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 11 Jun 94 pp 1, 3

[By Vijayan Menon, Chan Cheng Tuan and Esther Tan]

[Excerpt] Kuala Lumpur, Fri—The Barisan Nasional [BN] Supreme Council today unanimously accepted Parti Demokratik Sabah, [PDS] [Sabah Democratic Party] and Parti Bersatu Rakyat Sabah [PBRS] [Sabah United People's Party] into the coalition.

PBRS, launched on March 15, is headed by former PBS [Party Bersatu Sabah—Sabah United Party] secretary-general Datuk Joseph Kurup while PDS is headed by former PBS deputy president and Deputy Chief Minister Datuk Bernard Dompok.

The PDS has 12 Assemblymen and four MPs while Kurup is the only Assemblyman in the PBRS.

With their entry, the ruling coalition has 49 State Assemblymen in the 54-seat house. Apart from the 13 from PDS and PBRS, UMNO [United Malays National Organization] has 22, Sabah Progressive Party (six), Angkatan Keadilan Rakyat [Akar] [People's Justice Organization] (six) and the Liberal Democratic Party (two). The PBS, in Opposition, has five Assemblymen. BN chairman and Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed said the council considered applications from three parties to become components of the coalition.

"After discussing at length, we unanimously decided to accept the PDS and the PBRS but rejected the application of Parti Setia [Loyalty Party]," he told reporters after chairing an hour-long meeting of the BN Supreme Council at the UMNO headquarters in the Putra World Trade Center here.

Parti Setia, headed by Suhaidin Langkap, was formed in October last year and it contested 15 seats in the Sabah State elections but faired miserably with nearly all the candidates losing their deposits.

Asked whether any conditions were attached to the acceptance of the two parties, Dr. Mahathir said there were none and they were accepted as full members.

Earlier, Dr. Mahathir said the UMNO supreme council had also made its stand on the applications by the PBRS and PDS to join the BN.

On whether the council discussed the appointment of a Sabah deputy chief minister, he replied: "This is not the responsibility of the BN Supreme Council.

"It is up to me to decide on the post and other vacant positions in consultation with the Sabah chief minister," he said.

Asked whether the acceptance of the two parties would cause problems as there were other Sabah BN parties which had expressed reservations on the inclusion of the two, he said:

"The decision was unanimous... as such we do not think there will be any problem." On the objection of Akar, he said Akar, like the other two component parties, gave their views.

"After we listened to all their views we made the decision and everyone agreed."

Asked whether this would further consolidate the coalition's strength in Sabah, he said it would become stronger.

Questioned on whether this would encourage the call for an early general election, he laughed and quipped: "There are so many encouraging signs that even I am confused."

On whether the council discussed the general election, Dr. Mahathir said, there were questions about the election.

"I explained about the elections ... how to hold elections, what needs to be organised, election machinery and co-operation among the component parties."

On whether there was a possibility of a general election being held this year, he replied: "Maybe. Perhaps next year." [passage omitted]

Official: Arms Seized From SRV Fishermen

BK1506032594 Kuala Lumpur UTUSAN MALAYSIA in Malay 19 May 94 p 1

[Excerpt] Johor Baharu, 18 May—Illegal fishing activities in Malaysian waters by Vietnamese fishermen who are former military personnel well trained in warfare are posing a new threat to the country. This follows the discovery of a rocket-launcher and several automatic rifles in two Vietnamese fishing trawlers detained in Terengganu recently.

Abdul Hamid Syukor, chairman of the Marine Division of the Fishery Department said that from the national security viewpoint, the discovery of the weapons is serious and at the same time a danger to the country's maritime officials. "Even though there were no clashes when the weapons were seized, the seizure was something serious because these Vietnamese were well trained in using war weapons," he said to reporters after visiting the marine fishery center here. Therefore, maritime officers have been instructed to conduct thorough examinations on Vietnamese trawlers involved in illegal fishing in the area.

Abdul Hamid said the trawlers were found during the incidents on 4 and 7 March to be armed with one rocket-launcher, one light machine gun, two M-16 rifles, and two AK-47 rifles, as well as eight ammunition magazines, 13 rounds of 40mm ammunition, and 485 rounds of ammunition. He added the two trawlers had been detained by two Royal Malaysian Navy patrol boats at 150 nautical miles in Pahang waters early in the morning. [passage omitted]

Minister Asks UNEP To Help Curb Dumping

BK1506041094 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0320 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, June 15 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Malaysia has asked the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to assist in its joint move with Denmark to draw up an international regulation to curb dumping of toxic chemicals in developing countries.

Science, Technology and Environment Minister Law Hieng Ding said Tuesday, he made the request to UNEP Under Secretary-General Elizabeth Dowdeswell since UNEP had been an active and strong supporter of international chemical safety programmes.

Dowdeswell was also briefed on the discussion I had with Danish Environment Minister Svend Auken, Law told reporters after receiving Dowdeswell, who is on a two-day official visit here.

Monday, Malaysia and Denmark agreed to work together in formulating an international regulation to control the trafficking of banned and restricted chemicals like DDT [dichloro-diphenyl-trichloro-ethane] from industrialised nations to developing countries.

Law said during their one-hour meeting, they also discussed a wide range of subjects, among them, the role of UNEP in the restructuring of the global environmental facilities, where he hoped UNEP could play a much bigger role.

He said they also discussed Agenda 21, the world's action plan to protect the environment.

Malaysia also suggested a possible dialogue among Southeast Asian countries, Australia and New Zealand on environment matters.

Dowdeswell, who is on her first visit here, said the UNEP was very keen to work with Malaysia and Denmark on enforcing the ban on toxic chemicals dumping since UNEP had been promoting chemical safety.

Cambodia

Peace Talks Adjourn With No Progress

BK1506075594 Hong Kong AFP in English 0720 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Report by Kevin Barrington]

[Text] Phnom Penh, June 15 (AFP)—A new round of peace talks between the Cambodian government and the radical Khmer Rouge guerrillas adjourned here Wednesday, and government officials were almost unanimously pessimistic about the outcome.

In his opening address, King Norodom Sihanouk's representative, Nhoek Chulong, who is hosting the talks at the city's Royal Palace, warned that if the two sides failed to reach a positive result the king would refuse to call for any further sessions.

But despite this, the morning meeting broke up with the two sides failing to reach an agreement on a proposed ceasefire.

"We will continue tomorrow," Mak Ben, who often serves as the Khmer Rouge's spokesman, said as he left the palace.

Nhoek Chulong stressed the king's request for a simple "yes or no" answer to the ceasefire proposal.

The government side, which also consisted of Cabinet Minister Sok An and parliament representative Toh Loah, agreed to the ceasefire and suggested a starting date of June 30.

In a statement released to the press, senior Khmer Rouge delegate and former ambassador to China Chan Youran said the Khmer Rouge "were most delighted to have a ceasefire" and that it should be strictly controlled by a "committee or technical group."

But he refused to give a simple "yes or no" answer.

"I think the Khmer Rouge still do not agree to the ceasefire schedule proposal," Sok An said.

Senior government representative and Interior Minister Yu Hokkri echoed the sentiments of most of his colleagues when he said he was "not at all optimistic" about the eventual outcome but was going along with the talks in accordance with the king's wishes.

The Khmer Rouge, who control some 10 to 15 per cent of the country, boycotted last year's UN-supervised polls and have since continued a guerrilla struggle against the government installed by the polls.

The talks follow a previous unsuccessful round hosted by the king at his residence in North Korea last month.

On the agenda for Thursday's session is the even more problematic issue of the king's proposal for political concessions.

Under this, government posts would be given to "acceptable" members of the Khmer Rouge, provided the guerrillas open up their zones and merge their fighters with the national army.

Government officials said a major stumbling block was the Khmer Rouge's conditions for going along with the king's plan.

Chan Youran said the Khmer Rouge would comply with the king's proposal if the government agreed to what the guerrillas called their "minimum political platform."

A senior government official said this entailed scrapping the existing government and parliament and introducing a new power- sharing arrangement with the radicals.

That is considered quite out of the question by Phnom Penh, as it would mean the two-billion-dollar UN mission which laid the foundations for a democratically-elected government would have been in vain, he said.

"There is no way we can accept this," he declared.

Other government members accused the Khmer Rouge of deliberate obfuscation and suspected the guerrillas were only presenting a facade of interest in the peace talks in order to buy time.

"I don't believe there will be a positive result but let us wait and see what happens tomorrow," Yu Hokkri said.

Co-premier Hun Sen recently said that the only way the Khmer Rouge problem could be solved was through a combination of social development to improve the lives of the country's impoverished rural majority and also though military pressure.

Sihanouk Says Return to Power Improbable

BK1506075094 Phnom Penh AKP in French 0400 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Quotation Marks as Received]

[Text] Phnom Penh 15 Jun (AKP)—His Majesty King Norodom Sihanouk, king of Cambodia, on 12 June granted an interview to a BMD [Bulletin Mensuel de Documentation—monthly bulletin of Sihanouk's secretariat] team in Beijing. Here is the entire interview.

BMD team: "Sir, your 11 June 1994 interview with Nate Thayer will please many compatriots and displease and offend other Cambodians, who dread your return to power. What will you do to reassure the honorable Cambodian personalities currently in power that it is not your intention to return to power?

Norodom Sihanouk: "I wish to reassure our current leaders in fact on my so-called "possible return to power." My age, health, and personal interest will not push me into [words indistinct] (?power) which brings me only deception, unpleasantness, extreme fatigue, and great dangers. I only answered a specific question from Nate Thayer who spoke to me about the case in which Cambodia (?and its) people were desperate and in mortal danger. In such a case, I was asked by Nate Thayer, would I let Cambodia and the Cambodian people die without trying to save them. To be frank, I answered no. I would prefer to die while trying to help save my fatherland and my people rather than to die on my hospital bed in Beijing. So, I gave Nate Thayer some details of my "political program" in case I was called upon by our current leaders (N.A. and the RGC) [National Assembly and the Royal Government of Cambodia] to ensure the rescue of Cambodia for one or two years. Well, "the Cambodian ship" will not sink anytime soon, despite serious damage. Therefore, we do not at all need a rescuer... [ellipsis as received] even one named Sihanouk. The only plan I have "in mind" seriously is not my return (not wished and not desirable) to power, but rather a new 35-mm film entitled "an apostle of non-violence" for which I will write the scenario and dialogues. This was inspired by the admirable action of Samdech Preah Khousananda and a venerable Khmer (?monk) killed by the Khmer Rouge during the third Thammyeatra [peace march by Buddhist monks]. So, I hope that our current leaders (whom I support and will always affectionately support) will not give too much importance to my so-called "plan" in case I was forced to "return to power." There is only one possibility in a thousand that such a case will present itself.

Participants at Roundtable Talks Listed

BK1506034694 Phnom Penh National Radio of Cambodia Network in Cambodian 0320 GMT 15 Jun 94

["News on the Meeting of the Roundtable Commission"]

[Text] On 15 June 1994 from 0900 [0200 GMT] at the Damnak Chan pavilion in the royal palace, a meeting of the roundtable commission for peace and national reconciliation was held under the chairmanship of Samdech Chakkrei Nhoek Chulong, high adviser of His Majesty the King of the Kingdom of Cambodia.

Attending this second roundtable meeting were His Excellency [H.E.] Tol Loah, representative of Samdech Chea Sim, chairman of the National Assembly; H.E. Yu Hokkri, representative of Prince Krompreah Norodom Ranariddh, first prime minister of the Royal Government of Cambodia [RGC]; H.E. Sok An, representative of Samdech Hun Sen, RGC second prime minister; H.E. Chan Youran, representative of H.E. Khieu Samphan, chairman of Democratic Kampuchea.

Attending the meeting as observers were Supreme Patriarch Tep Vong of the Mahanikay order and Samdech Preah Khousananda.

The agenda of the meeting is as follows:

1. The unconditional, immediate, and permanent ceasefire throughout the territory of the Kingdom of Cambodia—proposal of the King of Cambodia;

2. The maximum political program—proposal of the Democratic Kampuchea side.

Indonesia

Daily Views Failure of Trade Talks with U.S.

BK1506082794 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0600 GMT 15 Jun 94

[From the press review]

[Text] KOMPAS discusses the failure of the textile trade talks between Indonesia and the United States in Bali last weekend. The earlier talks, held in Washington, also failed to reach an agreement. Therefore, it was the second time the talks were not successful.

The United States continues to reject Indonesia's request to increase the export quota of Indonesian textiles and textile products by 14 percent for certain textile categories. The United States is willing to increase the quota by 2 percent, and Indonesia cannot accept that.

As for the U.S. demand to have access to Indonesian markets for its commodity goods, a concrete agreement has not been reached yet. Against this background, KOMPAS urges the Indonesian Government to approach not only the USTR in Washington, but also the U.S. Senate, the State Department, the Agriculture Department, the U.S. Customs, and American business circles. As such, the success of the talks will be determined not only in formal negotiations but also through informal relations and personal approach. Such a personal approach is needed in future talks to produce results desired by Indonesia.

Energy Minister Views OPEC Strategy

BK1406111894 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1442 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Jakarta, Jun 14 (ANTARA)—Minister of Mines and Energy I.B. Sujana said Monday that OPEC's strategy of maintaining static quota of 24.2 million barrels per day (BPD) is effective in keeping prices at the stable level.

The static quota has up to the second quarter of this year proved to be effective in stabilising prices, and therefore it is expected that the quota will be maintained until the end of this year, the minister said.

OPEC countries must also maintain their discipline, violating their respective quota, Sujana said when installing a number of senior officials at the state-owned Perum Gas Company.

In reply to a question in connection with the planned meeting of the price monitoring committee of OPEC's oil ministers in Vienna on June 15, the minister said that the decision by OPEC to maintain the production level is correct.

The OPEC oil ministers will discuss in the Vienna meeting the developments of oil prices, the minister said adding that the present quota was decided in March in anticipation of an increase in demand for oil supplies.

The prediction of increased demand was based on the recovery of economies of advanced countries after recession over the past few years.

Although the dry season has fallen in the countries of the Northern Hemisphere, the oil demand on the world market remains stable so that prices are improving.

According to the minister, the other factor which contributes to the improving price is the on-going repair of oil installations in the North Sea producer countries.

Supply of oil from the North Sea producing state was reduced temporarily as a result of the installation repair.

It seems that the non-OPEC producers have yet to increase their output from 4.5 million barrels per day to 5.3 million BPD.

Besides, the discipline of the OPEC members to abide by their respective production quota was able to prevent oil oversupply, he added.

The minister said that oil price at present is about 16 US dollars per barrel, higher than the price during the March-April period which stood at US$13 per barrel.

The price of Indonesian minas oil has since last month reached 15.9 dollars per barrel, he said.

He expressed the hope that the OPEC oil ministers will in the next meeting reach consensus that will continue to improve oil prices.

Minister Sujana said that the agenda of the meeting consisted of 15 items, including the succession of OPEC secretary general.

Current OPEC secretary general Subroto is to complete his tenure of office this month.

Sujana said that Subroto cannot be elected for the next period as he had occupied the post for two consecutive terms.

Venezuela's Oil Minister Dr. Parra and his Iranian counterpart Gholam Reza Aqazadeh are strong candidates for the secretary general post.

For Indonesia, the two candidates have similar commitment to OPEC, the minister said.

House Criticizes New Investment Policy

BK1506110394 Jakarta THE INDONESIA TIMES in English 4 Jun 94 p 1

[Text] DPR [House of Representatives] criticizes the government's decision to let foreign investors enter the local mass media business as it violates the existing press law (UU No. 21/1984), hampering national unity and the Pancasila state ideology.

The government issued the Regulation Number 20/1994 on Tuesday allowing foreign investors to have more than 50 percent shares in various businesses, including local mass media. On the other hand, foreign investors and executives are allowed to enter the local mass media.

Chairperson of the Commission I [in charge of foreign affairs, defense, security, and information] Aisyah Amini of the United Development Party (PPP) urged government to review its decision and reminded that mass media is still strategic in the national development.

She said that the foreign investment on mass media will hamper national unity and against the press law. National press in the developing countries has strategic role like informing public opinion and channelling people's aspiration. She suspected that foreign investors will not merely cope with commercial matters but also with political [ones], and this will influence the national ideology. "It ruins national press idealism," she added.

MP Zamhari of the Golkar [Functional Group] group said that government should reconsider the decision and reminded that this regulation is against the press law. He said that press law should not be "defeated" by such government's regulation and any policy must be based on constitutional ground. Any deviation from this should be handled in the frame of constitution, he said.

"Don't let ambition to attract foreign investment hamper our national unity," he stressed.

Any expansion of investment must not endanger our ideology, politics, and sociocultural systems, the MP added seriously.

Aminullah Ibrahim of the Armed Forces Group expressed his concern over the regulation. He said there is no reason to implement the policy and he reminded that foreign investments in mass media will surrender our sensitive communication and information system to the foreigners. "They can suppress us to accept their ideas, and this is dangerous," he said.

"Don't let foreign powers intervening our strategic sectors," Aminullah added.

MP Sabam Sirait of the Indonesian Democratic Party Group in the House told reporters here on Friday that government's decision is premature and it crushes Law Number 21/1984 on the national press. In the other word, Sabam added further, the Regulation Number 20/1994 is invalid.

Editorial: Foreign Investment in Local Media

BK1506105994 Jakarta THE INDONESIA TIMES in English 6 Jun 94 p 2

[Editorial: "No Foreign-Owned Media in Indonesia]

[Text] Liberal-minded media proprietors and executives in this country had long yearned for a total free market-oriented media industry unbridled by any intervention in both editorial and management matters. Opposition to such a demand from concerned officials, leaders, and members of the media community itself had been equally strong.

Then, last week, three cabinet ministers (the information minister was not one of them) declared that the gate to foreign investment in the industry, which had been shut tight since the government banned Dutch and other foreign-owned press in the late fifties, was henceforth opened. As the announcement was like thunder under a sunny sky, heads shock in utter disbelief.

The decision was more than what the majority of domestic critics of the existing regulated media policy had bargained for. Under the new policy as outlined in Government Regulation No. 20/1994 dated May 19, foreign investors are freed from the previous minimum capital requirements and compulsory equity divestment for joint ventures and offered ownership in seaports, telecommunications, power, railways, civil aviation, nuclear power, and the mass media.

Without any scruple, the ministers laid open the reasons for the revolutionary reform in the government's foreign investment policy. The primary objectives, as they pointed out to newsmen, are to draw the mammoth sum of U.S. $305 billion in new investments during the current five-year plan and provide jobs for a sizeable share of the estimated new 2.5 million-strong labor force.

With the exception of the hitherto non-existent commercial nuclear power facility, the other industries are technically already in operation around the country, but some of them are handicapped by lack of funds and professional expertise to expand. Hence, the rapidly growing private sector involvement in what were once under full state monopoly.

But to those voicing their disappointment with the new policy, commercialism and professionalism are not the issue. The issue is whether their constitutional designation as protected fields should now be so radically compromised.

The decision to open up the mass media field to foreign investment is easily the most controversial and disturbing. How can the media industry be offered to foreign ownership in complete defiance of the principles envisaged in Law No. 21/1982 [year as published] which compels the media to uphold the national philosophy, constitution, state policy, national journalistic canons, and Indonesian societal customs and norms, and for these reasons any involvement of foreign capital and personnel in the national media management and development is prohibited?

If in the unthinkable likelihood the three ministers were on the right road, we might then next expect the new policy to lead to a revision of the existing national law to suit the dictates of globalisation. If so, regulations regarding publishing permit, the constitutions and codes of ethics of the veletant [as published] professional organisations, and the provision giving journalists and media employees a 20-percent share of company stocks will also have to be revoked.

The new deregulation measures affecting the media contains an undeniably serious flaw harmful to the national interest. Its ominous defect, which could only be caused by unbelievably simple ignorance, presents the government with no alternative but to revert to a media policy consonant with Law No. 21 as demanded by both the publishers and journalists associations soon after the controversial government regulation was made public.

Chinese Businessmen Launch Image Drive

BK1506061094 Singapore BUSINESS TIMES in English 14 Jun 94 p 1

[Text] Jakarta—ETHNIC Chinese-owned business groups in Indonesia together with the country's security authorities, have launched a campaign to improve their image and their relations with the public, say executives of Chinese-owned companies.

The move follows outbreaks of rioting and public criticism in recent months over the gap between the rich and poor, and which culminated in rumours of violence two weeks ago.

Informal meetings have been held in several cities between military leaders and businessmen, focusing on observing the legal minimum wage and improving the treatment of employees.

Companies also agreed last week to take part in a community development programme.

Ethnic Chinese business leaders have welcomed the army's promise to protect them from any violence.

The companies have made commitments to pay the minimum wage, with many noting that when transport, food and medical payments are included, many workers receive more than the minimum.

In Surabaya, for instance, where minimum wages are 3,200 rupiah a day, workers normally receive an additional 2,500 rupiah in allowances plus annual bonuses. The companies say the government accepts that a minimum wage of 7,000 rupiah a day would not be economic.

Meetings have stressed the need for the ethnic Chinese-owned companies to pay salaries on time and to treat indigenous Indonesians with respect, in a polite and professional way.

Military and local government officials are also establishing a programme of social and community involvement under which companies are seen to be publicly supporting the community, especially its poorer members.

Projects will include supply of bathroom and toilet facilities in poor villages, building of kindergartens, and help with medical items such as spectacles for the poor.

Companies have been told that they must involve themselves in charitable and sponsorship activities so that they are not seen as only interested in making profits.

Company executives, who remain cautious about the possibility of outbreaks of violence, say that the measures are a positive way to reduce the perception of unfairness.

"The behaviour is the important thing," says one company chairman. "We are all Indonesians working together for our company and good work should be rewarded with good pay and professional treatment. "

Younger ethnic Chinese executives say they have integrated too deeply into Indonesian society to consider leaving, even if there is racial trouble.

"We have to be patient, and take a low-key approach," says one business leader when asked about allegations of arrogance by wealthy ethnic Chinese displaying their success with big houses and luxury cars.

Philippines

Ramos Views Korean Crisis, PRC Nuclear Test

BK1506110194 Quezon City PTV-4 Television Network in English 0652 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Weekly news conference by President Fidel V. Ramos with domestic and foreign correspondents at Malacanang Palace in Manila—live; passages in italics in Tagalog]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] [Ramos] I also have a statement in regard to the Korean peninsula nuclear issue. You will recall ladies and gentlemen that I made a statement on this just four days ago. But of course there are now new developments.

This is in regard to the still unconfirmed reports—these are still unconfirmed—that Pyongyang intends to withdraw from the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA]. And if that step has not yet been officially taken by North Korea, we urge North Korea to remain in the IAEA so that an early and peaceful resolution through patient negotiation and creative diplomacy can be found to resolve this issue.

Our concern here stems from the possibility of nuclear proliferation because such proliferation is a destabilizing factor for global and regional security, and in turn will derail and disturb and possibly [word indistinct] normal economic growth and sustained development in our part of the world, if not in the entire globe itself. And as a developing country, certainly, we want to move our economic, social, and political development forward without disturbances of this nature.

I also have a statement in regard to the reported testing by China four days ago, or 10 June, where a nuclear test was reportedly undertaken at its testing site at Lop Nor. And as you all know, as a signatory of the United Nations treaty on nonproliferation of nuclear weapons the Philippines is strongly against the proliferation of nuclear weapons, and this includes observance of a testing moratorium. So that in the end we hope that all of these tests will stop through a... or be made to cease through a comprehensive test-ban treaty. [passage omitted]

[Correspondent Manny Mogato] With Pyongyang ominously sounding the war drums and with Seoul (?gearing) to dance to the same music, in case of actual conflict between the two Koreas, the United States—being committed to the defense of South Korea—will certainly be drawn into the war. Mr. President, will the Philippines be also drawn into the same conflict by virtue of our mutual defense treaty with the United States?

[Ramos] No, that's very, very farfetched. You will recall that the Philippines joined in the so-called police action on the Korean peninsula—which was occasioned by the invasion by North Korea of South Korea across the 38th parallel—because of a UN Security Council resolution, not a defense treaty with any country. But before we could send our troops there, a law had to be passed, and this was Republic Act 573, the so-called Peptok Law passed by Congress in September 1950. So, it's not automatic that the Philippines rushes into the fray. After all, we are not the policeman of the world. But we have expressed our concern.

In my statement four days ago I cited five major reasons:
—Because of our nonnuclear provisions in the Constitution, in the basic law;
—Our membership in the IAEA board of governors, that is, Ambassador Rey Arcilla who is based in Austria;
—Our proximity to the Korean peninsula. We are close enough, we are much closer than the United States;
—The some 13 to... maybe more, thousand Filipinos in South Korea; and,
—I mentioned it a while ago, the possible crippling and paralysis of economic activity in our part of the world.

In which, again, *developing countries will become such a pity. The developed countries might benefit because of the war.* What about us? Those are my concerns.

So, we have called for patient negotiation, consultation, and creative diplomacy so that perhaps we can find the acceptable solutions before sanctions are applied.

[Mogato] Follow-up, Mr. President. As member of the ASEAN, what do you think will be the role of the ASEAN in diffusing the threats of war in the Korean peninsula?

[Ramos] Well, certainly the ASEAN-member countries can take positions as we have done on a national basis. We are of course always in consultation within ASEAN with our sister countries. But as far as I know, ASEAN as a bloc has not yet come up with a position. Although in the recent senior officers meeting of the ASEAN Regional Forum which deals with security and defense matters, there was already at that level—this is a lower level—expressed the concerns of the ASEAN countries about the proliferation of nuclear weapons. [sentence as heard]

Of course, I think you are aware of the initiatives of Russia to convoke an international conference that will involve now the principal negotiators with the two Koreas. I hope that something will come out of this because this is really in the realm of creative diplomacy and patient negotiation. [passage omitted]

Finance Secretary Downplays Inflation Rate

BK1506085294 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 11 Jun 94 p 17

[Text] The International Monetary Fund has expressed concern over the rising inflation, which has averaged at near double-digit levels during the past three months.

"Inflation is not only their concern, it is also ours," said Finance Secretary Roberto F. De Ocampo. "But it is not the kind of concern that translates into panic."

Last month's inflation rate hit 10.1 percent while the March and April levels were at 9.7 and 9.8 percent, respectively.

A high inflation rate indicates rising cost of prices and a high level of liquidity in the system.

The economic program drafted by the government for IMF approval sets an inflation target for the year of only 8.5 percent.

A team from the IMF is currently in Manila to get an update on the economic performance of the Philippines during the first quarter of the year.

"They are here to update their figures and make sure that it is in full consistency with what has been agreed upon," he said.

The team began discussions with the technical committee of the Philippines, which drafted the three-year economic program submitted last month.

"The review is in preparation for their orals when they defend the program in front of the (IMF) board," De Ocampo said. The IMF board is set to deliberate on the three-year economic program for the Philippines on 24 June.

"The IMF board is in the process of reviewing our request for an extended fund facility amounting to $650 million," according to De Ocampo.

"We are confident we will secure an IMF program, which will also enable us to proceed successfully with the much-awaited and long-delayed consultative group meeting for the Philippines on 21 to 22 July in Paris as well as the fifth Paris Club rescheduling," he said.

Thailand

Editorial Scorns U.S. 'Machismo' on DPRK

BK1506050394 Bangkok THE NATION in English 15 Jun 94 p A6

[Editorial: "Give Quiet Diplomacy A Chance in North Korea"]

[Text] Angry at the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) decision to suspend technical aid, North Korea announced on Monday that it was immediately withdrawing from the UN watchdog.

In a statement, the North Korean Foreign Ministry said the authorities would stop all IAEA inspections adding that any punitive measures taken would be regarded as declaration of war.

North Korea's defiant decision has caused worries in the region with some nations seeing the move as reinforcing the position of countries seeking sanctions at the UN Security Council.

The United States, Japan, and South Korea agree that the time has come to impose sanctions on North Korea because of its failure to allow international inspections of its nuclear programme.

Nuclear ambitions

Yet few have asked what such sanctions would achieve, it being assumed that sooner or later North Korea would have to admit its nuclear ambitions. But if such a admission is not forthcoming and if neither Russia nor China cooperate fully with Washington, the US would have little real leverage, and North Korea would have succeeded in undermining the post-Cold War principle of the non- proliferation of nuclear arms.

As North Korea has rejected the final appeal to make available its nuclear records, the issue will be debated again by the United Nation Security Council. If a resolution is proposed to impose sanctions, what action will North Korea take?

Assuming that UN Security Council sanctions are imposed, there is a strong possibility Pyongyang will decide to leave the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT).

Ironically, North Korea's accession to the NPT in 1985 has been attributed to Soviet pressure. In 1992, Boris Yeltsin declared that Russia would not help North Korea in the event of a war despite having an assistance pact which Moscow signed with Pyongyang in 1961.

Withdrawing from the NPT is the right of all signatories to the treaty though withdrawal must follow a set procedure which includes a three month notice.

Once outside the NPT, North Korea would undoubtedly suffer from further recriminations and isolation. But UN action to impose sanctions or take other measures would be legitimized only if the country could be declared a common security danger to the general peace and safety of the world.

Is it credible to regard North Korea as such?

The claim that it is a general threat because of its development of nuclear weapons is a weak one. There are several states outside the NPT, including Pakistan, India and Israel that have nuclear arms programmes more sophisticated than North Korea's.

Also, North Korea has not been engaged in a war since 1953, and although Kim Il-song's international behaviour is something like that of a mad man, Pyongyang's recent record is no worse than say Syria, which is presently being courted by Washington as an associate in the Middle East peace process.

With these considerations in mind, it is unlikely that China would cooperate in imposing sanctions on North Korea and would veto any Security Council resolution. More than half of Pyongyang's external trade is with Beijing and China still provides credit to North Korea.

World of the sane

Meanwhile, the Russian proposal to convene an international conference on the issue seems to complicate matters. Ever since Yeltsin's visit to South Korea in 1992, Russian influence in North Korea has been considerably reduced. This in turn has caused Yeltsin to come under severe criticism back home, with his detractors saying that Russia's foreign policy is being tailor-made to suit Washington.

This leaves the United States in a very awkward position. Though South Korea and Japan have agreed with Washington to impose sanctions against North Korea, it is doubtful whether they would be effective without the support of China and Russia.

We do agree that the Kim Il-song regime in Pyongyang must be helped into the world of the sane. However, imposing US-proposed sanctions would only prove to be a big farce. North Korea must not be provoked further because the threat of war on the peninsula is real. Quiet diplomacy must be given a chance and under such circumstances the display of machismo by the United States is just as dangerous as a cornered and embattled North Korea.

* Khmer Rouge Zone Relations With Thais Viewed

94se0125a Bangkok BANGKOK POST INSIDE INDOCHINA in English 17 May 94 p 1

[Text] The Khmer Rouge in Zone 505 clearly prosper from the timber trade with Thailand. They live in solid wooden houses, have electricity, watch television, and some of their children play with hand-held electronic games.

"The Khmers here are somewhat better off than elsewhere," said a Thai timber trader. "Safety is 100 pre cent secure" in terms of traveling and communications.

A week ago, it took three hours from Bo Rai district in the southeastern Thai province of Trat to reach this timber-rich community in Samlaut. The best route there is maintained by the Khmer Rouge throughout the year because it is the only one that is usable during the wet season.

A four-wheel-drive truck is the only vehicle that can make the journey. Thai timber traders stocked up with rice, dried and fresh food. Most of it was for improving relations with guards along the way and ranking Khmers important to the smooth operation of their business.

Three Thai military checkpoints were passed before Khmer Rouge outposts were reached. These border guards seemed to appreciate salted mackerel in particular. War veterans, they had been taken off the battlefield and posted to these checkpoints to deal with Thai traders because they had been maimed by landmines.

Zone 505 is in rich, variegated forest. Several Thai traders said they were more confident doing business with the Khmer Rouge than with people they refer to as Khmer Khao (White Khmers), meaning those loyal to the government in Phnom Penh.

"They [the Khmer Rouge] do not collect fees along the way like the Khmer Khao," one trader pointed out. "Safety in terms of logging and access to sites is more or less reliable

"If anything, it is fellow Thais who cause problems. The Khmer Rouge officials keep to their word."

Zone 505 is home to 20,000 people, the majority of them women and children, many very young - the result of a Khmer Rouge population drive that has seen girls from age of 18 married off and encouraged to produce, residents said.

But the leadership remains stringent about family life, no adultery or polygamy is allowed.

According to Lok Nong, who is on the central committee of Zone 505, with special duties to co-ordinate with Thais and look after the timber trade, Khmer Rouge administration allows for some autonomy.

If the zone's forces seize any territory belonging to government they are entitled to take charge and administer the benefits of that territory.

"Zone 505 is reputed to be very experienced in fighting," he said.

The Khmer Rouge retake of Pailin, located north of here, last month was largely the work of soldiers from Zone 505.

Khmer Rouge units were closing in on Battambang and would eventually take the country's second largest provincial capital if the government obtained no foreign support, he claimed.

"Thailand does not send arms to Democratic Kampuchea. We have to be self-sufficient in every respect now," Lok said.

At community level, Khmer Rouge self-sufficiency is ensured by the central committee through a cooperative system. The committee administers the use of a central pool of tractors, rollers and other farming equipment, and the distribution of seeds to each household.

"Democratic Kampuchea's main sources of income are timber and gems," Lok said. "The income is used to improve the welfare of each zone. We do not let any one individual or even the top administrator enrich himself alone."

Logging is carried out through cooperatives composed of no less than 10 parties. The main rule is to fell trees that are sufficiently large.

While Zone 505's main income is timber, zone 405 located further north is engaged in gems. The men of this even more comfortable Khmer Rouge community are said to be reluctant to go to the battlefield.

The destination of Thai timber traders is a medium-size saw mill in the middle of a forest in Samlaut. Khmer Rouge soldiers off duty from the frontlines guard the stacks of sawn timber on site.

Some 50 kilometers beyond, in a mountainous and forested area, a large pile of felled logs—as many as 10,000 according to Khmer Rouge reckoning—is waiting to be hauled across the border into Thailand.

"Democratic Kampuchea will look after the timber until Thailand permits this," said a Khmer Rouge soldier.

Zone 505 enjoys relative peace and fairly good means of communication with surrounding areas. But the area is heavily mined.

"We lean on Thais when we are in trouble," Lok said.

"Now we are at peace, we want to encourage Thais to come and do business with us more than other nationals, who want only to drain us of our natural resources," he said.

Official Reports on ASEAN Meeting

BK1506095694 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1030 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] ASEAN has agreed on group cooperation in the areas of telecommunications and transportation. An agreement was reached at the meeting of ASEAN senior economic officials in Indonesia on the setting up by ASEAN of a department to study group cooperation in telecommunications and transportation; a proposal on this is to be forwarded to the ministerial meeting in Thailand around September. The project will be treated as urgent. The meeting also agreed to have the Philippines study the framework of ASEAN cooperation in the service sector.

Karun Kittisathaphon, deputy permanent secretary of the Commerce Ministry, reported that the senior officials' meeting in Indonesia on 6-8 June studied Thailand's proposal for group cooperation in service trading. Although this does not mean there is a need to open up markets for the service trade, the cooperation will support and stimulate the implementation of the ASEAN Free Trade Area, or AFTA. Thailand's proposal was accepted at the meeting, which assigned the Philippines to take the lead in studying the framework of cooperation.

The meeting also agreed to conduct a survey on tariffs on service goods in telecommunications and transportation in order to contribute to the AFTA plan. Each country will appoint a delegation to attend a meeting on this subject. A proposal will be made to the ASEAN ministers' meeting for study after which it will be forwarded to the ASEAN summit, which is scheduled to be held in Bangkok early next year.

The deputy permanent secretary for commerce added that the meeting of the senior officials in Indonesia reviewed the implementation of the AFTA plan and proposed that efforts be made to shorten the span of tariff reduction from 8 to 5 years and also to include unprocessed farm products in the AFTA plan.

Vietnam Seen as 'Potential Competitor'

BK1506051994 Bangkok THE NATION in English 15 Jun 94 p B3

[Text] Vietnam is emerging as a potential competitor to Thailand in attracting investment in production facilities by auto manufacturers looking for countries to relocate to, an analyst said.

Thailand may lose its competitive edge to Vietnam due to the latter country's low property and labour costs, and the abundant natural resources there.

The analyst suggested that Thailand will have to develop its auto industry in order to maintain its competitiveness.

"The development of manpower technology and marketing, for continuous growth in this industry, needs to be taken seriously if Thailand is to remain the largest auto production base in Asean," the analyst said.

Vietnam has the potential of be coming a very large market as the country has a population of 70 million people but only 200,000 cars. The increasing buying power of the Vietnamese will present a great marketing opportunity for Thailand, he continued.

At present, Thailand's auto industry is more competitive than ever after the lifting of the high tariff on imported cars by the government in 1992. The lowering of the tariffs awakened local producers after 30 years of protection to the fact that they have to fight to keep their market, which in turn has led to healthy competition.

The liberalization the country's auto industry has benefitted Thai consumers, as they now have a larger selection of cars to choose from at more competitive prices.

When the tariffs first came down domestic auto makers seemed uneasy with the government's measures, but they've managed to adjust themselves to the changing environment.

In the past few years, we've also seen changes in the automobile industry as a whole. Giant auto makers such as General Motors, are planing to invest in production plant here again; General Motors left Thailand in 1978.

The American auto maker, in a joint-venture, is planning to build the largest auto plant in Asia, reflecting the market potential of Thailand.

The Japanese auto makers, not to be outdone, are also planning to invest in assembly plants here with a combined production capacity of up to 600,000 cars a year by 1996, which is considerably higher than the current 460,000 cars per year.

Toyota is also planning to turn out 200,000 cars per year by 1996 with a new plant located at the Gateway Industrial estate. The plant will be the company's largest one outside Japan and will require an investment of Bt [baht] 1 billion.

These manufacturers recognise the potential growth in the country's automobile industry, but for Japan the relocation is partly due to the strength of the yen against other currencies.

The growth of the domestic auto market stemmed from the rise of the middle-classes and the lack of a mass transit system in Bangkok.

Auto sales in 1992 totalled 456,000, a jump of 26 per cent from the previous year. Experts say sales growth targets are expected to decrease but the sale of 500,000 cars is not an unattainable goal, even though interest rates and gasoline prices are on the rise.

Auto makers are planning to make Thailand an export base, but exporting won't be easy since they will have to produce at least one million cars per year in order to achieve sufficient economies of scale to reduce production costs. Korea had developed the capacity to produce two million cars when it first began to export.

In order for Thailand to become an export base, the industry needs to develop its manpower, technology and supporting industries, such as electronic parts production and plastic and aluminum production, as these are all needed by the automobile industry.

Drug Chief Reviews Narcotics Problem

BK1506052094 Bangkok THE NATION in English 15 Jun 94 p A9

[Text] Although Thailand has succeeded in cutting opium production by 99 per cent in three decades, the high output of 2,000 tons from its neighbours still makes the Golden Triangle the world's largest narcotics producing region.

The increase in opium production in the region over the past 20 years is due to rising demand in consumer countries in Europe, North America and in Australia, according to Pol Gen Chawalit Yotmani, secretary general of the Office of Narcotics Control Board (ONCB).

He said Thailand's success in reducing opium output to about 20 tons per year was the result of the introduction of royal projects on cash crop substitution and rural development.

Chawalit was one of five guests invited to appear on Kho Khit Duai Khon (Sharing Views) chaired by Dr Choemsak Pinthong, associate professor of Thammasat University's Economics Faculty. The recorded programme will be telecast next month.

The crop substitution programmes have been recognized by UN drug agencies which are pushing for a regional effort to combat illicit drugs. Thailand, he said, has already signed an agreement with Burma and Laos to assist them in crop substitution programmes.

Chawalit said regional cooperation is also needed in suppressing drug trafficking. Traffickers have recently opened up new routes through China, but Thailand's good transport infrastructure still contributes to the majority of the area's heroin production moving through it onto the world market, he added.

He said the United States had already recognized the need to apply a multi-level anti-narcotics strategy including the reduction of local demand in its combat against drugs. The United States, he said, will concentrate in the next four to five years on the suppression of local demand and the rehabilitation of drug addicts.

Chawalit's views were shared by another panelist, Gary Suwannarat, a senior adviser of the UNDCP Projects Coordination Office, who said the US narcotics policy was partly wrong in concentrating mainly on suppressing the supply side while overlooking the reduction of local demand.

She said a multi-pronged antidrugs approach which addresses all aspects of narcotics activities is needed to successfully wipe out the drugs. Washington has said that 60 per cent of the heroin in the United States originated in Southeast Asia.

Suwannarat, Chawalit and other guest speakers, however, cautioned that while heroin might be reduced eventually, other new addictive chemicals could spring up to fill the market.

According to Dr Annop Wisuthimak, director of a rehabilitation unit for drug addicts, alcohol is the worst and most devastating substance of abuse as it contributes to accidents and violent acts such as brawls and physical harassment.

One person is killed and three people are admitted to hospital every hour in Thailand as a result of alcohol-related incidents, said Annop, who cited survey studies to support his statements.

Other substances, such as inhaled solvents and amphetamines are more dangerous than heroin as they are relatively cheap and widely available in the market, according to Annop. But he said alcohol causes the largest economic loss to the country, about Bt80 billion per year.

Chawalit and Annop agreed that amphetamines will pose the greatest danger in Thailand in the future as the production process is much easier than that of heroin and can even be done in vehicles.

The ONCB secretary-general said there is a need to control the import of chemicals used to produce amphetamines and to suppress their illegal smuggling especially by fishing vessels.

Two years after Parliament passed new anti-narcotics laws which included the forfeiture of drug traffickers' assets, the courts have already tried and sentenced 11 narcotics cases and the police have subsequently seized the assets and properties of 60 persons involved, according to Chawalit.

Vietnam

'Deep Concern' Over DPRK Nuclear Crisis

BK1406114794 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] In answering an AFP correspondent inquiring about Vietnam's reaction on the IAEA's [International Atomic Energy Agency] decision to pose punitive sanctions on the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, a spokesman of our Foreign Ministry on 14 June said:

Vietnam follows with deep concern recent developments of the nuclear issue in the Korean Peninsula. We believe that all members of the International Atomic Energy Agency, IAEA, have similar obligations in the nuclear issue. We are always persistent in our belief that the solution for this complicated issue can only be reached through resolute and serious negotiations between the parties concerned on the basis of equality and respect to each other's independence and sovereignty and to international laws.

All actions at variance with that direction will only worsen the already complicated situation, and will harm the trend of peace, stability, and cooperation for the Pacific region which all countries in the region are striving to maintain.

Military Delegation Leaves for DPRK Visit

BK1306162194 Hanoi VNA in English 1508 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Hanoi VNA June 13—A high-ranking military delegation led by General Doan Khue, minister of National Defence, left here today for an official friendship visit to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) at the invitation of Marshal O Chin-u, minister of People's Armed Forces of DPRK.

Further on Vo Van Kiet's Visit in Kazakhstan

Talks With Prime Minister

BK1406145294 Hanoi VNA in English 1424 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Hanoi VNA June 14—Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet and his Kazakh Counterpart S. Tereshchenko held talks in Almaty on June 13.

The two leaders reviewed the implementation of the Vietnam-Kazakhstan Economic-Commercial Agreement signed early this year, agreeing on measures to promote the friendship and cooperative relations between the two countries on the basis of mutual understanding and trust. Prime Minister S. Tereshchenko stressed that Kazakhstan highly valued the first visit to Kazakhstan by the Vietnamese prime minister, describing it an encouraging sign and an important landmark in the Vietnam-Kazakhstan relations.

In order to rapidly expand the commercial relations between the two countries, the two leaders share the same view that business people of the two nations should make direct contacts to enquire the customer's demands in each country and to find suitable forms of payment.

Mean while Kazakh Prime Minister S. Tereshchenko said that Kazakhstan interests in cooperating with Vietnam in the fields of agriculture, oil and gas, mining and light industry, and Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet stressed that in the immediate future, the two countries can set up various forms of joint venture to cooperate in the growing and processing of tropical farm produces such as tea, coffee, rubber, and so on as well as the making of commodities for consumption including garments.

The two sides noted that Kazakhstan would continue its cooperation with Vietnam in science, technology, and personnel training.

Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet reaffirmed that Vietnam attaches importance to the development of the traditional friendship and multi-sided cooperation with Kazakhstan, and will spare no efforts to bring these relations to a new step of development in conformity with the two countries' potentials and aspirations.

The two prime ministers agreed upon an early signment [as received] of an agreement on encouragement and protection of investment, an agreement on avoidance of double taxation and a transport cooperation agreement. They also agreed to set up an intergovernmental commission on economic, commercial, scientific and technological cooperation.

The Kazakhstan leader affirmed the Kazakhstan Government and people's determination to strive for the fruitful cooperation between the two countries in the interest of their peoples and for the sake of peace, stability and development in Asia.

Joint Statement Signed

BK1306161794 Hanoi VNA in English 1527 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Hanoi VNA June 13—A joint statement between Vietnam and Kazakhstan was signed today in Almaty by Kazakhstan Prime Minister S. Tereshchenko and Vietnamese Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet on the occasion of the latter's visit to Kazakhstan.

Present at the signing ceremony, on the Kazakh side were the deputy prime minister and minister of science and technology, the foreign minister and other senior officials, and on the Vietnamese side, members of the delegation and Vietnamese Ambassador to Kazakhstan Nguyen Van Dac.

The joint statement affirmed that Vietnam and Kazakhstan would continue to expand their bilateral cooperation in the fields of economy, commerce, national defence, energy, mineral exploitation and agriculture. The two sides decided to set up an inter-governmental committee on economic, commercial and scientific technological cooperation aimed at promoting and strengthening the relations of friendship, cooperation trust and mutual understanding between Vietnam and Kazakhstan in the coming period.

Prime Minister Hosts Banquet

BK1406004394 Hanoi VNA in English 1519 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Hanoi VNA June 13—Kazakhstan Prime Minister S. Tereshchenko gave a banquet this evening in honour of Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet and his party now on an official friendship visit to Kazakhstan.

Among those present at the banquet were the deputy prime minister and minister of science and technology, the foreign minister and the minister of external economy.

In his speech, Prime Minister S. Tereshchenko said that Kazakhstan is making its efforts to attract Vietnam's technology and investment and to develop the economic and commercial relations between the two countries.

He also said that Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet's visit has ushered in a new stage for the all-round development of the relations between the two countries.

In his reply, Mr. Kiet expressed his belief that with its current socio-economic programmes, it's certainly that Kazakhstan will rapidly advance forward on its road of development.

He also hailed Kazakhstan's initiatives aimed at contributing to the maintenance of peace, stability, cooperation and development in Asia.

The two prime minister and everybody proposed toasts to the further consolidation and development of the friendship and cooperation between Kazakhstan and Vietnam.

Agreement on Education Signed With Australia

BK1406064994 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Australia and Vietnam have signed an agreement on cooperation in education and training. The Vietnamese minister of education and training, Tran Hong Quan, and Australia's minister for employment and training, Simon Crean, signed the agreement in Hanoi. The agreement reinforces Australia's commitment to building closer trade and investment links with Vietnam.

Mr. Crean is in Vietnam as part of the seven-day program promoting Australia's education and training expertise in Vietnam, Indonesia, and Malaysia.

Circular on Export Procedure Changes Issued

BK1406091194 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 12 Jun 94

[Text] The Ministry of Trade recently issued a circular which announces that effective from 1 July, the procedure of issuing export permits for a single trip will be abolished except in the following cases:
—Goods that are banned from export;
—Goods exported according to special plans;
—Goods of specifically managed industries;
—Special cases: goods for exchanging, semi-export goods, goods intended for labor-intensive produce exhibitions, and goods produced by foreign enterprises in Vietnam.

Before the date this circular becomes effective nationwide, the Ministry of Trade and the Customs General Department will select a number of localities and production establishments which will experiment with the new procedures immediately in June. The circular will become effective nationwide on 1 July.

The cancellation of the procedure of issuing export permits for a single trip will benefit business establishments in their export activities.

Deputy Prime Minister Meets Head of IFC

BK1306162594 Hanoi VNA in English 1511 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Hanoi VNA June 13—Deputy Prime Minister Tran Duc Luong received here today a delegation of the International Financial Company (IFC) led by Varel Freeman, head of the company's Department for Asia, the Pacific.

Speaking to his guests Mr Tran Duc Luong reaffirmed the Vietnamese Government highly valued IFC's contribution and considered the expansion of its relations with IFC as well as other international monetary organisations very important. With its open door policy, the Vietnamese Government is pleased to create conditions for private companies to invest in Vietnam and hoped that IFC would help Vietnam by granting investment credits.

For his part, Mr Freeman said that IFC would invest its capital in projects prepared by IFC. After investing in the first project, IFC will invest in a harbour of Vietnam specializing in farm products export and goods import.

Over the past three years IFC has sent many delegations to Vietnam to define investment projects and joint ventures in Vietnam. IFC has also decided to invest in a project on expanding Metropole Hotel.

At present, IFC is inquiring into the possibilities of investing in tourism, cement production and in pipe line installation. IFC is also planning a joint venture project with Vietnam to set up insurance companies and help Vietnam making legal documents relating to stock market activities.

World Bank Grants Agriculture Loan

BK1406071294 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Ten Vietnamese Southern peasant cities have received loans valued at $52 million from the World Bank to restore agriculture. The loans are aimed at restoring and developing agricultural services, giving financial credit to 50,000 farmer households, and restoring 150,000 hectares of rubber trees. They also help Vietnam provide trends and pioneer projects on the development of rural areas.

Ministry, UNHCR Review Repatriation Program

BK1306111194 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 12 Jun 94

[Text] The Ministry of Labor, War Invalids, and Social Welfare and the UNHCR [UN High Commissioner for Refugees] held a joint conference in Haiphong on 10-11 June to review the task of receiving and reintegrating repatriated Vietnamese during the 1989-94 period.

During the past five years, more than 62,000 Vietnamese were repatriated from Hong Kong, Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, and Japan.

The Vietnamese Government and international organizations have provided aid and assistance to these returnees while creating conditions for them to stabilize their daily life and to reintegrate themselves quickly into the Vietnamese community.

In Haiphong, Quang Ninh, Ho Chi Minh City, Thua Thien-Hue, and Quang Nam-Danang about 70-75 percent of the returnees now enjoy a relatively stable life, 5-10 percent are doing well, and 10-15 percent experience difficulty in finding jobs and living quarters.

Reportage on National Assembly Proceedings

Voters Present Views, Last Part

BK1306071794 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 10 Jun 94

["Last Part" of report compiled by National Assembly Standing Committee on voters' views submitted to the Ninth National Assembly's fifth session]

[Text] Concerning the wage system, voters in many localities asked the government to continue its efforts to study and improve the wage system to make it just and rational. Voters in many localities hold that the reclassification of compensation plans for competent cadres and retirees in accordance with Decree No. 05-CP, dated 26 January 1994, is irrational because it does not reflect good care for the retirees. Besides, the wide coefficient between wages for active civil servants and the pension for the retirees represents an unfair situation. All voters in localities raised issues related to the policy toward local cadres and held that since the application of Decree No. 46-CP, various villages have experienced numerous difficulties. The streamlining of personnel and the limitation of expenditures for village cadres and activities of mass organizations at the grassroots level are not appropriate because it creates a bad feeling for the local cadres who have made great contributions to the people. The fact that many key cadres at the grassroots level resigned has caused confusion in the social life of localities. Many voters suggested that the National Assembly should question the minister concerned and chairman of the Government's Cadre Organization Committee regarding the promulgation of Decree No. 46-CP. The voters held that this decree was not in conformity with the party's line on consolidating and strengthening the local administration. Voters of the education sector expressed their indignation in the reclassification of the compensation plan. They said that this has created an unfair condition in the promotion process because in the past one only needed three years to get a step increase, now they have to wait for six years.

Regarding social policy, most voters expressed concern over the unemployment problem. Voters in provinces and cities said that a large number of youth in cities and the rural areas are jobless. This is a direct cause leading to social vices such as gambling, drug addiction, prostitution, and theft. The voters suggested that the state invest more in programs to resolve the unemployment problem, considering this an important measure to stop social vices. Many voters held that efforts to send Vietnamese workers abroad is the state's correct policy aimed at resolving the unemployment issue at home. However, the government should take essential measures and reach agreements with foreign countries to protect the interests of Vietnamese workers abroad. Many voters paid keen interest in the policy toward wounded soldiers, families of the fallen combatants, and those who have contributed meritorious services to the state. Most voters held that the present allowances for families of fallen combatants are too low. They suggested that the state should formulate a better policy toward those who have made great contributions to the state to maintain the principle of gratitude while educating the younger generation and developing the fine tradition of our nation.

Voters throughout the country welcomed the party and state lines in solemnly organizing our nation's major anniversaries, including the commemoration of the 40th anniversary of the Dien Bien Phu victory. The voters held that the solemn commemoration of the Dien Bien Phu victory created a significant impact in the feeling of all Vietnamese. Voters in many localities asked the state to promulgate a regulation on treatment for those who have performed meritorious service for the state. They said that they have asked for this regulation on many occasions; however, their request was ignored. They also asked that when the state completes the draft regulation on this issue, it should be made public to solicit the people's ideas.

IV. Implementation of the National Assembly's resolution on practicing thrift, opposing waste and corruption, and suppressing smuggling.

All voters in localities welcomed the National Assembly's resolution on this issue, which was adopted at the Ninth National Assembly's fourth session. The voters highly appraised the National Assembly's determination in the struggle against lavish spending of state budget, corruption, and smuggling which are the pressing issues at present. Many voters noted that the government has made great efforts in implementing the National Assembly's resolution. However, results attained in this regard are low while social vices tended to increase in various meticulous forms. Voters commended Dong Nai, Song Be, and Tay Ninh Provinces for their efforts in dealing with car smuggling cases. The press recently reported, however, that the government has not taken prompt action against a number of business units that imported motorcycles without proper permission. The voters held that efforts to suppress corruption and smuggling is an important, yet very difficult task. As a result, the state should formulate more concrete and effective measures to deal with this issue while urging state agencies from the central to grassroots levels to seriously oppose corruption and smuggling. Voters in some localities suggested that the state should review the organization of the Steering Committee for Opposing Corruption and Smuggling because low results were obtained in this task. Many voters suggested that the National Assembly should set up a special committee to review verdicts of some cases which were still questioned by the people and to speed up investigation of pending cases, and that the National Assembly should formulate law or regulations on opposing corruption and smuggling.

Voters in many localities suggested that the state review policies and regulations aimed at eliminating officialism and procedures that lead to annoyances and extortion. Efforts should be made to simplify and publicize the procedures for issuing driving permits and registration for car and motorbike owners.

Voters in many provinces and cities also suggested that during the fifth session the National Assembly deputies need to consider and evaluate the recent situation through practicing thrift and combating corruption and smuggling. Voters in some localities suggested that in order to implement the National Assembly's resolution on practicing thrift and combating corruption and smuggling, there should be a motivational campaign for the masses with good coordination between criticism and suppression. Importance should be attached to the tasks of law building; avoiding redundant, conflicting, or inconsistent laws and regulations; and solving conflicts between economic interests and responsibilities.

Voters' Opinions on the National Assembly's Legislative Tasks.

According to the reports of provincial National Assembly deputy groups, voters acknowledge the National Assembly's efforts in its law building activities. The large number of laws passed in 1993—such as the law on land, the law on tax on agricultural land use, the law on oil and gas, the law on business bankruptcy, and the draft laws to be passed in the National Assembly's current fifth session—are proof of the National Assembly's good performance of its legislative function, thus contributing actively to building a law-governed state in socialist Vietnam.

Voters, however, expressed great concern over ineffective law enforcement. They think one cause is the lack of guidance, education, and mass motivation in law enforcement. Voters suggested that adequate funds should be allocated to law education campaigns and effective measures should be developed to consolidate and clean up agencies in charge of investigation, prosecution, and jurisdiction.

Voters in many provinces and cities held that the publication of draft laws in the print media—giving people the chance to voice their opinions and suggestions—is evidence of the democratic and popular characteristics of legislative work, making it a regular political activity of the people. Many discussion sessions were held at all levels—resident groups, hamlets, villages, districts, cities, and so forth—with tens of thousands of attendees offering many valuable and useful suggestions.

In addition, in the campaign to solicit voters' suggestions for the National Assembly's current fifth session, the following suggestions were raised by many voters:

—Draft laws should be publicized early and the discussion time should be increased so that voters have the appropriate time to study them.

—Along with the publication of draft laws in newspapers, there should be additional guiding documents to make the discussions more effective and of better quality.

—Before a decision is made to amend a law, the law should be reviewed to check for provisions that are no longer suitable.

—Voters in some localities expressed concern over the draft amendment to the law on organization and election of people's councils and people's committees. They submit that several provisions in the draft contradict the 1992 Constitution. Some voters think that the new draft is not as good as some other drafts that were brought up for discussion before.

Voters' General Opinions on National Assembly Activities.

Most voters expressed delight at the constant improvement of the National Assembly's activities. They held that the National Assembly has performed its legislative function well in the recent past and has tried to improve its supervisory role. Deputies' activities have also changed for the better. Deputies have shown a high sense of responsibility, maintained regular and close contact with the people, and listened carefully to the people's opinions and aspirations.

Voters in many localities, however, suggested that the National Assembly should strive to strengthen its controlling and supervisory roles, especially over the two important National Assembly resolutions passed by the fourth session—on tasks for 1994 and on practicing thrift and combating corruption and smuggling activities. At each session, the National Assembly should review and evaluate the implementation of its resolutions so that it can develop suitable measures to improve implementation.

The task of the National Assembly deputies and provincial deputies groups to meet with voters has become more effective and regular. They still think that deputies need to improve and reform their communication with voters for the sake of better quality and greater efficiency.

Other Issues.

According to the reports of the provincial deputy groups from Ha Tay, Ha Bac, and Vinh Phu, the voters repeated their petition to split their provinces.

The above is a summarized report on the opinions and suggestions made by voters nationwide to the National Assembly. The National Assembly Standing Committee solemnly submits this report to the deputies and deputy groups.

Discuss Socioeconomic Plan

BK1406150894 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 14 Jun

[Summary] The fifth session of the Ninth National Assembly entered its 17th day today.

"In the morning, the deputies continued to discuss the situation regarding the implementation of the socioeconomic plan for the first six months of 1994 and the socioeconomic tasks for the last six months of the year. The morning session was directed by National Assembly Vice Chairman Nguyen Ha Phan.

"In financial and monetary matters, all those who spoke expressed their concern about the status of budget revenue and expenditure. Some deputies suggested that we should carry on the policy of promoting increased savings among the people by increasing the interest rate for savings accounts and encouraging enterprises to increase production in order to generate new sources of revenue."

Many deputies raised the question of how to vigorously shift agricultural production to the manufacture of marketable products.

Others called for economic development in mountainous areas. They asked the state to take practical measures in terms of capital, market, and transportation.

"In terms of capital construction, many deputies called for a review of the 1994 program for capital construction and those projects which are still left unfinished from past years."

Some deputies observed that "the present accounting system in our country is only suited to the subsidy-based economic management system because it does not take into account profits or losses. It must, therefore, be revised to suit the market system."

In addition to the observations about improving cultural and artistic activities, "many deputies continued to raise the warning about a failure to resolve several social ills such as opium smoking, drug addiction, prostitution, and about the danger of many video and movie films being illicitly imported and many books dating back from the old regime being reprinted."

They also expressed worries about the degradation of public health and the education system and about the shortage of Level-1 and level-2 school teachers and medical personnel for mountainous regions.

They pointed out that "It is the desire of the people to see the government strictly maintain law and order, positively carry out thrift, fight corruption and smuggling, and take stern actions against those who take advantage of the renovation policy in enriching themselves illegitimately or working against national order and discipline."

This afternoon, the National Assembly continued to work under the direction of Chairman Nong Duc Manh.

Various cabinet members answered questions raised by deputies. They included:

—Mr. Do Quoc San, minister of state and head of the State Planning Commission, who answered a question about the implementation of Project 327 on covering bare hills with greenery.

—"Mr. Ho Te, minister of finance, who answered a question about the situation regarding budget revenue and expenditure. He explained various measures aimed at promoting increased revenue during the final months of the year such as guarding against tax collection shortfalls, seeking local and foreign loans, and economizing on spending in order to balance revenue and expenditure."

—"Mr. Hoang Duc Nghi, minister and head of the Nationalities and Mountain Region Committee, who answered questions about the supply of essential commodities to mountain regions, and about the outcome of an opium control program."

—Mr. Nguyen Quang Ha, minister of agriculture, who answered a question about the outcome of the implementation of Prime Minister's Directive 525 and Program 327 on the delivery of forests and forest land [to local peasants for management].

"Tomorrow, the National Assembly will continue work at the Conference Hall."

Communique No. 14 Issued

BK1406160994 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] The Office of the National Assembly has issued Communique No. 14. The communique says:

The National Assembly worked at the Conference Hall today. In the morning session under the direction of National Assembly Vice Chairman Nguyen Ha Phan, the National Assembly continued discussing the situation regarding implementation of socioeconomic tasks for the first six months of 1994 in compliance with various resolutions of the National Assembly.

Fifteen deputies aired their views, including: Nguyen Thanh Cao of Kon Tum, Tran Viet Bien of Tay Ninh, Nguyen Ngoc Hai of Haiphong, Nguyen Dang Lam of Quang Nam-Danang, Le Binh Thanh of Vinh Phu, Ho Minh Man of Vinh Long, Tran Dinh Phung of Hai Hung, Nguyen Thi An of Cao Bang, Nguyen Duy Anh of Lam Dong, Nguyen Ngoc Tran of Long An, Hoang Dinh Cau of Ha Tay, Hoang Duc Hy of Tuyen Quang, Tran Quang Ngoc of Nam Ha, Nguyen Van Binh of Ben Tre, and Chu Thuy Quynh of Hanoi.

All of the views aired by the National Assembly deputies focused on the following main issues:

—The status of investment for capital investment, particularly for various key projects and key areas.

—The questions of mustering, tapping, managing, and using effectively various sources of investment, and of guarding against losses in capital construction.

—The situation of collecting revenue and guarding against collection shortfalls.

—The situaton regarding management of export-import tax collection and the fight against smuggling.

—The monetary policy and the interest rate for credit loans.

—The issue of debt solvency in the second phase.

—The questions of building a wholesome new lifestyle and of inheriting and developing the fine traits of our folk culture.

—The question of spreading didactical propaganda on how to live and work in accordance with institutions and the law.

—The question of firmly maintaining national law and order.

—The situation regarding the providing of health care and employment for the people, the deployment of the new wage system, and measures taken to deal with and avert social ills.

—Questions of doing away with hunger and easing poverty and of caring for the material and spiritual life of compatriots in areas inhabited by ethnic minority groups and in mountainous areas.

The afternoon session was held under the direction of National Assembly Chairman Nong Duc Manh.

After hearing the chairman point out the main substance of the questions raised by National Assembly deputies, as well as the answers given by relevant agencies, the National Assembly heard:

1. Do Quoc San, minister of state and head of the State Planning Commission, provide answers for the policy of carrying out and allocating funds to Project 327, which is designed to cover fallow land and bare hills with greenery; about enforcing the policy of gradually doing away with the system of managing ministries and administrative levels in production and business activities; about the question of continuing to rearrange state firms; and about the possibility of containing inflation and avoiding unexpected price fluctuations.

2. Minister of Finance Ho Te discuss the situation regarding implementation of the state budget in the first six months of 1994, debt solvency in the second phase, the prospects for balancing the state budget in the last six months of the year, settlement of debts owed by the state to the people during the two wars of resistance, and about the need to economize on spending.

3. Hoang Duc Nghi, minister of state and head of the Nationalities and Mountain Region Committee, discuss the situation regarding enforcement of various specific policies and measures designed for areas inhabited by ethnic minority groups and for mountainous areas as well as about the supply of commodities needed for production and the life of the compatriots in areas inhabited by ethnic minority groups and in mountainous areas, and about the need to assist mountain compatriots in changing their production pattern by replacing poppy growing with other crops.

4. Minister of Forestry Nguyen Quang Ha provide answers about implementing the policy on delivering forests and forest land [to local peasants for management], and about efforts to care for and protect the jungle and measures taken to avert the bad practice of forest destruction now taking place in some localities.

After Ministers Hoang Duc Nghi and Nguyen Quang Ha answered questions, 10 National Assembly deputies raised certain issues for further explanation. These deputies were: Y Ngong Niek Dam of Dac Lac, Nguyen Thi Binh of Quang Nam-Danang, Nguyen Van Hieu and Hoang Dinh Cau of Ha Tay, Dang Thi Thanh Huong of Quang Ninh, Dam Van Nguy of Cao Bang, Nguyen Van Sy of Gia Lai, Nguyen Thiet Hung of Khanh Hoa, Lo Van Inh of Lai Chau, and Nguyen Duc Hoan of Quang Tri.

Ministers Hoang Duc Nghi and Nguyen Quang Ha continued to answer these additional questions raised by the National Assembly deputies.

Tomorrow, the National Assembly will continue work at the Conference Hall.

15 Jun Morning Activities

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[Text] This morning the National Assembly deputies worked at the Ba Dinh Conference Hall under the direction of Chairman Nong Duc Manh. Members of the government cabinet continued to answer questions raised by National Assembly deputies on the implementation of socioeconomic tasks in the first six months of the year and plans for the next six months.

Tran Dinh Hoan, minister of labor, war invalids, and social welfare answered questions on the calculation of pensions for retired cadres, pensions and allowances for wounded soldiers, death benefits for survivors of war dead, allowances for cadres and soldiers [formerly] on combat duty in the south leaving families behind without support, and wage scales for cadres of education and medical agencies at the grassroots level.

On the issue of spontaneous immigration, Minister Tran Dinh Hoan revealed major measures that the Ministry of Labor, War Invalids, and Social Welfare are applying, including the setting up of new economic zones projects in areas with many spontaneous immigrants already settled there or in areas to which they like to move. On the issue of rehabilitation for drug addicts, the minister spelled out measures currently used by the government to set up a rehabilitation service at the ward and commune level with wide cooperation from local authorities, mass organizations, and families of drug addicts. Drug addicts who use intravenous drugs should be sent to institutionalized centers; however, the most important task is always the active prevention of this social vice.

Construction Minister Ngo Xuan Loc answered questions on the price of houses in Ho Chi Minh City, and revealed that in the recent past his ministry has quickly rectified errors previously committed when carrying out the task of appraising house prices .

Trade Minister Le Van Triet answered questions on cases concerning paper imports, import quotas for motorcycles, and one case concerning 38 motorcars imported into Binh Dinh Province. The minister held that the Trade Ministry was basing its work on the amount of paper produced domestically to allow the import of a necessary amount of paper—types of paper that cannot be produced here—for use in the sector concerning external relations. The decision to withhold motorcycle import permits is in line with the government policy to use foreign currency reserves to import production supply.

* Training, Events in Military Reviewed

942E0049 Hanoi TAP CHI QUOC PHONG TOAN DAN in Vietnamese Mar 94 pp 56-58

[Article by Colonel Hoang Duc Dam: "Military Region 9 Strengthens Military Training To Keep Up With Combat Readiness Needs, Task"]

[Text] In recent years, the situation on the borders, along the coast, at sea, and on the islands of Military Region 9 was quite complicated. According to incomplete data, from January to September 1993, foreign aircraft violated our air space over the borders 31 times; people crossed the borders to flee the country 1,200 times; and people illegally entered the country more than 200 times. Twenty armed robberies and 17 cases of property stealing took place; and people smuggled goods across the borders on average about 1,000 times a day. Considerable losses of lives and properties were inflicted on the people living along the borders.

At sea, since the beginning of this year, aircraft violated our air space in pursuit of our fishing boats 8 times; warships of the Thai Navy violated our territorial sea 26 times as they openly chased after, searched, and seized 6 of our boats; confiscated fishing equipment and properties from 9 other boats; and captured 54 fishermen. Thai fishing boats violated our territorial sea to illegally catch fish in average 30-40 times per boat per day. Cambodian fishing patrol boats also violated our waters 78 times to round up and fine the boats of our fishermen. Piracy frequently took place in the area of the "Pirates" islands; 15 cases involving losses of lives and properties destroyed the peace of mind of our fishermen.

Inside the region, the reactionaries who took advantage of ethnic and religious issues and the criminals who had refused to be reeducated caused disturbances and disorder.

In the face of the above-mentioned situation, the issue that the armed forces of the military region had to face was to make sure that building and training satisfy the needs of the combat readiness task, both immediate and in the long term, and contribute to safeguarding national sovereignty and maintaining political security, order, and social safety in the military region.

We carried out the directive on military training and political education in 1993 issued by the commander of the military region: "In 1993, we must continue to guide training toward being basic, realistic, steady, and suitable for the needs and task of individual forces and units, and suitable for the characteristic terrain of the military region, the existing table of organization and equipment of individual units, the combat objectives that have been set, and the fighting realities and traditional fighting patterns of Vietnam and of the military region's armed forces, thus making sure to provide our forces with three arms, to properly fulfill the assigned tasks, and to defeat the enemy under any circumstances."

Right from the beginning of the year, before starting the main-session training, in addition to teaching and understanding the task, plan for, and principle of training and organizing advanced training for cadres according to their ranks, the military region had been holding seminars to have in-depth discussions about renovating the contents and methods of training for larger units (main-force divisions, brigades, and regiments, and local battalions). On the basis of the technical and tactical documents issued by the General Staff, seminar participants discussed applying the training of troops to delta and river-waterway terrains for the purpose of compiling appropriate and realistic training curricula.

In the seminars, the issue that received a high degree of unanimity was the need to strengthen open-air training, with the amount of the latter accounting for 40 percent or more of the total training in each unit and for each individual. Depending on the task of a unit, the latter would choose an appropriate location for open-air training, normally a border area or a key point (central points, ethnic minority zones, religious areas, remote areas, and so on), with companies or battalions being rotated to take part in open-air operations. Open-air training should be aimed at satisfying these needs: to get used to the terrain, to train in adaptability and tenacity, to train in the concept of organizing regular-army discipline and order, to apply training to troops-management regulations, and to train in technical and tactical matters under the conditions of being stationed in river-waterway terrain and densely-populated areas. Mass proselyting should be combined with training to contribute to building the political base and to urge the youth to enroll in the army and to actively take part in providing the locality and people, particularly the families having few members, with labor. The time spent for open-air activities was 10 days or more, up to 1-2 months in the case of some units (depending on the training subjects and the political situation in the locality demanding a longer period of such training).

Almost all permanent forces in the military region (including the main force, local troops, armed services, and organs) have so far obtained good results from their work: Regiment H/Corps B went to the Tan Hiep religious zone (Kien Giang Province); Regiment M/Corps B30 to the remote U Minh area (Minh Hai Province); Regiment B/Corps B30, Artillery Brigade S, and Battalion N12/An Giang to the Hoa Hao Zone (An Giang Province); and Regiment C/Corps B29 to the border area of Dong Thap. The Phu Loi/Soc Trang Battalion, in 6 training operations, went through 24 villages in the region of Khmer population and the former resistance base area consisting of 4 of the province's districts—Vinh Long, Long My, My Xuyen, and Ke Sach. The Truong Dinh/Tien Giang Battalion and Battalion N87/Vinh Long went to as far as Dong Thap and An Giang border areas in the training operations that were coordinated with the local district companies and village militia forces in their exercises, in accordance with common defense plans. The military region's reconnaissance battalion also launched in the An Giang border area a training operation that was aimed at both improving its professional capabilities and fulfilling the task of ensuring combat readiness through coordination.

As for the militia and self-defense forces, in the past years, training was mainly based on the infantry training materials and curricula compiled by the Department of Militia and Self-Defense Forces. Using the terrain and traditional fighting methods adhered by the Mekong delta militia and self-defense forces, the military region recently gathered cadres of the local military schools to assign them the task of compiling specific training materials for the use of the militia and self-defense forces in the military region. These materials have been approved by the military region's Science-Industry Council and are being used to train local military cadres. These materials consist of three groups of lessons: political education (three lessons); self-made weapons, techniques, tactics for from individuals to platoons; and work to ensure rear-area activities in combat. Through their learning and discussions in training courses, most cadres found that the materials would respond better to terrain conditions and to the tasks and capabilities of the militia and self-defense forces and the locality. The militia and self-defense forces have so far obtained good results from training and from taking part in A2 exercises, which involved the troops' actual presence and the various assumed circumstances. As of September 1993, 851 villages and 1,125 subwards already completed their exercises and made contributions to realistically improving their capabilities and usefulness in maintaining security, social order, and safety. The most outstanding event in May 1993 was the fact that Can Tho Province organized a combined force having as its backbone the militia and self-defense mobile forces of six districts, Can Tho City, and suburban villages; being 1,363-member strong (over 800 members of the militia and self-defense forces; 90 members of the forces belonging to the provincial and district committees and sectors; 50 public security officers; and more than 400 members of the provincial permanent force); and being sent in an operation to the O Mon-Thot Not region (around the Song Hau State Farm) to do combined open-air training and to carry out exercises aimed at defending villages and subwards. After that training phase, a program of training more recently was completed by the militia and self-defense forces in which they learned military technical and tactical matters to understand the terrain concerned so as to be ready to become mobile if necessary and at the same time to do mass proselyting work, to build the bases, to deter the bad elements, and to stabilize the situation in their area following the disturbances and demonstrations in Song Hau State Farm. This was an open-air training operation that brought about good results and offered the localities realistic usefulness in terms of maintaining political security and social order and safety. The local military organ was able to do this job because first of all it had properly fulfilled the staff's role in favor of the party committee echelons and administrations while trying to win the agreement and support of the latter and mass organizations; at the same time, it had cleverly combined the national defense expenditures and local budget, and the people's assistance as well, in order to ensure the rear-area activities in favor of the forces taking part in the open-air operation.

At sea, the military region paid attention to assuming leadership and training the sea self-defense forces for the purpose of properly combining the tasks of producing, catching, and marketing sea products with those of safeguarding the sovereignty and security in the waters of the military region. As to its forces, the military region has so far established 4 naval groups, 20 flotillas, and 19 detachments, with a total of over 1,200 fishing boats being fully equipped with self-defense weapons and the necessary means of communications. The sea self-defense forces were trained in the Law of the Sea, how to identify foreign boats and ships, methods of coordinated communications aimed at chasing after and driving away foreign boats and ships during their violating Vietnam's waters, tactics used to chase after unidentified ships, techniques used to fire at targets at sea, and so on. The main units were the individual boats, which fully used the time they were anchored in port and the time they traveled back and forth for training. The military region also distributed work to naval groups and flotillas and regularly kept plans for sea activities for them to carry out in close coordination with border defense troops and the antiaircraft, air force, and naval forces stationed in the military region. As a result, both economic and national defense tasks were carried out quite successfully, with very obvious results being obtained. In the first 9 months of 1993, the sea self-defense forces caught 43 foreign fishing boats as they illegally operated in our fishing grounds and drove away many unidentified boats as they violated our southwestern waters. Our catch was also considerably high: The Kien Giang naval group alone, in the first 9 months of 1993, caught 11,000 tons of fish and shrimps, valued at a total of 32 billion dong, or 75 percent of the annual goal, with 27 billion dong being put into the budget.

As the result of the above-mentioned activities, the military region helped to limit and considerably reduce the number of foreign boats that violated our waters to catch fish, as well as the acts of armed provocation of warships, pirates, smugglers, and so on. It also contributed to strengthening the confidence of the sea self-defense forces and fishermen, expanding the fishing grounds and increasing the catch, and supporting the exploration and extraction of gas, oil, and other resources in the southwestern sea within the jurisdiction of Military Region 9.

In 1993, Military Region 9 showed an initial change in military training and political education along the line of the needs of its combat task, along with production, and in conformity with the terrain, equipment, and traditional fighting methods in favor of both the regular forces and the militia and self-defense forces. It is continuing to learn from experience in order to assume leadership and to multiply the typical acts, all for the purpose of carrying out even better the "Basic, realistic, and steady training" motto that the ministry has set forth.

* Importance of Ha Tay's National Defense Work

942E0048 Hanoi TAP CHI QUOC PHONG TOAN DAN in Vietnamese Mar 94 pp 52-55

[Comment at seminar on socioeconomic issues by Nguyen Dinh So, member, CPV Central Committee, and secretary, Ha Tay Provincial CPV Committee: "Exchanging of Experiences—Leading the National Defense Work in Ha Tay"]

[Text] Our party has affirmed that building and defending the fatherland always is the two closely-linked strategic tasks and the law of Vietnam's revolution.

Today, in the renovating efforts, as the task of socioeconomic stabilization and development is placed at the top of our agenda, the task of firmly defending the independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of the socialist fatherland, and stopping and defeating every enemy destructive and aggressive plot and act remains the strategic task of all our people, army, and political system.

Maintaining peace and political stability has a decisive significance for the fate of the nation and the development of the country. On the other hand, socioeconomic development and improvement of the standard of living are the topmost conditions for strengthening our ability to defend the fatherland.

In the face of complex international and regional changes, the fact that the country is encountering new challenges and new opportunities requires that we thoroughly understand the party's views and line and apply them to our locality in an appropriate manner. The Ha Tay Provincial CPV Committee always adheres to this leadership thinking and carries out the task of leading the efforts to consolidate national defense in the locality. These are the major issues that Ha Tay Province always attaches importance to and concentrates its leadership and guidance on:

I - To try to stabilize production and the living standard, to create the people's political and spiritual unity as the invincible line of defense in defending the fatherland.

In the economic field, the characteristics of the province—nearly 80 percent of the population lives on farming in rural areas—requires that we concentrate our efforts on achieving total development of agricultural production, with the central point of interest being grain production. In 1993, our production was 810,000 tons, exceeding the goal (800,000 tons) set for 1995. The per capita average production increased from 317 kilograms/year (in 1990) to 365 kilograms/year (in 1993). Our province granted the people the right to have long-term steady use of land as early as mid-1992. Although land was a pretty complicated issue due to many years of war and numerous changes in the sizes of cooperatives and in land and rural population, the fact that we assumed tight leadership over the efforts to grant farmers the land right ensured maintaining of stability and avoiding of disturbances and troubles. The people who lived in rural areas and did not have any other occupations, including active military personnel and workers and civil servants transferred to the locality, all received land. That was an important factor that enabled farmers to have peace of mind and the enthusiasm for doing productive work.

In addition to agricultural production, the people of Ha Tay have many handicraft occupations. In 1990 and 1991, because of many difficulties, our production declined. Recently, the province has strengthened its leadership; consolidated, developed, and promoted all economic sectors; stepped up industrial, small industrial, and handicraft production; and succeeded in boosting the latter to account for more than 30 percent of the total value of agricultural and industrial output, thus creating more jobs, raising the people's income, and gradually increasing accumulation of wealth.

In the social field, in addition to correctly implementing the social policies, we pay attention to gradually building the new countryside: achieving "happy villages, harmonious families." We do realistic work depending on the abilities of individual villages and aimed at three goals: raising the people's intellectual standard, strengthening community welfare, and protecting national culture and the environment.

The province has so far remodeled 60 percent of its schools to make them more good-looking; 100 percent of villages now have their own dispensaries; more than half of village roads have a brick or concrete surface; nearly 100 percent of villages have provided homes with electricity and have installed wired radio loudspeakers in their hamlets; some villages are creating their own new cultural models, and so on. These are the realistic measures aimed at creating the people's confidence in the party's new positions and policies, and stopping and defeating the enemy's "peaceful development."

In addition to caring about production and the standard of living, we expand democratic activities among the people. We have succeeded in urging wide and democratic participation of the people in the periods of soliciting public opinion for contributions to party congress documents, the Constitution, state laws, National Assembly elections, and so on; we have clarified, resolved, and dealt with in a timely manner the people's petitions and issues of concern raised by the public. As for the complicated cases, the "hot spots," the province has provided all sectors and echelons with guidance in regard to how to correctly evaluate the reasons behind any problems, particularly behind any contradictions among the people, so as to correctly handle them in accordance with the following principle: As to all matters having to do with the people, they must persistently rely on the people to resolve them at the basic level, with cadres having to apologize to the people and to behave accordingly after committing some mistakes. The key leading cadres need to hold direct conversations with the people.

As a result, the "hot spots" were all safely resolved, thus preventing the bad people from taking advantage of them and avoiding quarrels among the people and a loss of their solidarity. The fact that the rural areas became more stable and the standard of living was improved has been a positive contribution to the common stability in the province as a whole.

II - To build defense areas, to strengthen the all-people national defense potential and combat posture.

1. The first job is to educate and mobilize all the people and the entire political system for having the necessary concept and knowledge regarding today's task of consolidating national defense and maintaining security.

In various forms and with appropriate measures, Ha Tay has gradually made its cadres, party members, and people clearly see the enemy's wicked plots and tricks and at the same time grasp the characteristics and new needs of the current task of defending the fatherland. On this basis, it has been trying to heighten vigilance and the spirit of responsibility and to build a strong base so as to turn every village into a "fortress" and every citizen into a warrior devoted to the defense of our native land and the defense of the fatherland. It has plans for closely linking national defense and security with the political system to create a combined force and to be ready to successfully deal with any peaceful-development tricks, subversive and overthrowing action, or any daring acts on the part of the enemy.

2. To do good planning for economic development through the year 2000, to closely link economic development plans with consolidation of national defense.

We all know that the economy and national defense have close relationships and act on each other. How do we build the economy in order to both strengthen the national defense potential and create favorable conditions for national defense? In our economy today, the state is the social operator and manager and at the same time the major customer of economic units. It uses the law to operate; policies and other tools to act; and inevitably development plans to limit the negative aspects, to make the people rich and the country strong, and to hold steady the socialist movement. To achieve this, it requires that the planning for economic development, now and in the long term, be closely linked with national defense, with the two strategic tasks being truly combined. This is an extremely important issue in the planning and plans for socioeconomic development. As to Ha Tay, a large province having over 2.2 million people, specific resources, and many good historical monuments and natural sights, and being adjacent to the capital city of Hanoi, it has planned and will plan for becoming a province having an economic structure suitable for its capabilities and conditions (concentrating on three main sectors, namely, agriculture, industry, and tourism) and at the same time being capable of maintaining national security and creating favorable conditions for further strengthening national defense. We have been paying attention to making economic installations thoroughly understand the party views and avoid being interested "solely in economic matters," going after income at any cost, pursuing joint business and alliance in an unprincipled manner, and thus weakening national defense and the security of the locality and the country.

3. To build our armed forces strong in every way.

In the last few years, as we contributed to building a well-trained regular revolutionary army being gradually modernized, we set quality as the first requirement in our recruiting and calling up people and at the same time made sure that we fulfill the goals that the state had assigned to us. In the years of 1992 and 1993, nearly 80 percent of our recruits were in the good-health category; 94.3 percent of them had cultural background of levels 2 and 3. In addition, we also overfulfilled the goals set for recruiting people for military schools. The numbers of people having passed the examinations in Ha Tay accounted for 10 percent of the national total in 1992 and 11.3 percent in 1993.

To build the reserve force ready for mobilization was considered a regular and long lasting important task. This was a rather demanding job because it had to do with 25,000 people in almost all villages and production installations; it required a close combination; reasonably tight, neat, and professionally correct arrangement; and good quantity and quality in regard to both soldiers and cadres. Each year about 3,000 reserve officers and soldiers were involved in periodical training and exercises. Consequently, the party organizations and administrations at all levels had to adhere to tight leadership and management, to follow appropriate procedures and policies, and particularly to do a good job in regard to providing the people and members of the reserve force with good political and ideological education.

The militia and self-defense forces were further strengthened, with quality being the main goal to be achieved; they were organized in such a way as to be closely linked with administrative headquarters and production units (hamlets, villages, organs, enterprises) and to be of the right size (about 1.5 percent of the population). Training had to be realistic. The activities of these forces had to be linked with protecting production and maintaining security and order at the basic level; fees had to be paid by the collectives and people to allow them to operate effectively and to strengthen their organization on a regular basis.

4. To correctly implement the army's rear-area policy.

Because this was a job that would directly affect the building of the armed forces, party organizations, administrations, and mass organizations at all levels, from provincial to basic, attached a proper importance to it. The province as a whole had more than 37,000 dead heroes and nearly 25,000 wounded soldiers. As the right to use land on a steady and long-term basis was granted farmers, close-by and good ricefields were given on a first-priority basis to families of dead heroes and wounded soldiers, who were exempted from paying any contributions. On the 45th anniversary of the 27-7 event (in 1992), people in the province contributed money and energy to repairing and building hundreds of cemeteries and a number of monuments, built 500 affection-and-devotion houses and awarded more than 10,000 savings books to the families of dead heroes and wounded soldiers who had encountered difficulties, and took 100 percent of the seriously wounded soldiers (more than 500 of them) into their homes and provided for them.

Although there still were shortcomings, the above-mentioned deeds reflected a good effort and a total moral affectionate behavior toward those people who had sacrificed their lives for the independence and freedom of the fatherland and the happiness of the people; they have brought a degree of peace of mind to the people who are and will be fulfilling the military obligation and to their relatives.

5. To closely coordinate the work between the locality and the main-force units stationed in the province so as to maintain security and to strengthen solidarity between the army and the people.

At present, there are in Ha Tay Province many units of the main-force corps [binh doan], arms and services, institutes, officers' schools, storehouses, and national defense enterprises. Both the locality and the army are paying proper attention to the close coordination among them.

Party committee echelons at all levels, from provincial to district, city, and village, have plans for coordinating their work with these units in order to maintain security under any circumstances. Local party committee echelons and administrations, along with the heads of these units, hold annual meetings to exchange ideas about realistic work aimed at strengthening solidarity between the people and the army in the new situation. Many units have wholeheartedly helped the people to fight natural disasters, to protect production, to build schools and affection-and-devotion houses, to get medical treatment, and so on. On the other hand, many localities have helped the army units to protect their barracks, storehouses, and lines of communications, and to uncover and handle in a timely manner any misuses of army properties.

For the time being, the localities and units are checking the areas and boundaries of land so as to report them to the government, which will legitimize the right of the army to use land and at the same time will put aside some land where it is available for the construction of military families' residential areas, and thus to create favorable conditions for gradually stabilizing the family life of cadres of those units being assigned for long-term stationing in the province.

Because national defense work is very important and has to do with many aspects and many fields of activities, we must ensure the party's absolute and total leadership, first of all in regard to national defense views, line, and policies.

As we assume the national defense leadership in the locality, we pay attention to taking the following key steps:

- To correctly apply the party's renovation views on the construction and defense of the fatherland so as to devise the ways to strengthen national defense in the locality.

- To build the armed forces to make them truly clean and strong, suitable for peacetime military organization, and ready to satisfy wartime needs.

- To make plans for and train military cadres to make them loyal and reliable people having strong determination, good background, and the necessary knowledge of economic and foreign-policy affairs.

- Through party building, to strengthen and fully control party bases. To consider building party bases the important part of the efforts to build and strengthen national defense and security in the locality.

The state relies on the party line and policies, which are formalized in the form of documents serving as laws and regulations to be abided by all people, including party members, as they fulfill their sacred obligation toward the defense of the fatherland. The state must also take care of more important practical matters, such as balancing the budget, and the procedures and policies having to do with national defense and create favorable conditions for the locality to be stronger and stronger in terms of doing its national defense work.

* TCCS on Handling 'Hot Spots' in Thanh Hoa

943E0011A Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese Mar 94 pp 49-52

[Article by Nhi Le: "The Problem and Reality of 'Hot Spots' in Thanh Hoa"]

[Text] The concept of "hot spots" has appeared here in recent years. But what are "hot spots?" Looking at many different events in many places, many people think that a "hot spot" is a place where a major or even fierce struggle is going on among the people over some issue in a particular sphere (from a hamlet or village on up). The matter cannot be resolved on the spot and requires intervention on the part of the party committee echelons, the authorities, and judicial organizations from the primary level on up.

Thanh Hoa is one province where a rather large number of "hot spots" have appeared since the end of 1988. The first was the land dispute that arose between the Thanh Son Cooperative and the Sao Vang State Farm (subordinate to Xuan Son Village in Tho Xuan District) on 22 November 1988. Other disputes arose at the end of 1989. Most of the "hot spots" are in rural areas, and they are concentrated in places where the population density is high and where order and security have always been a problem. The "hot spots" are mainly at the level of the hamlet and village, with a few at the city level. From 22 November 1988 to 30 December 1992, there have been eight hot spots in Hau Loc District, six in Tho Xuan District, six in Cam Thuy District, five in Ngoc Lac District, five in Trieu Son District, nine in Thanh Hoa City, and two each in the cities of Bim Son and Sam Son. The thing to note is that "hot spots" have a tendency to "expand" rather rapidly, and they are concentrated in a short time period. For example, in 1992 alone, there were five hot spots in Ngoc Lac, four in Trieu Son, six in Hau Loc, and three in Thieu Yen. By 12 November 1993, a total of 120 "hot spots" had appeared in Thanh Hoa. Analyzing those 120 hot spots shows the following:

Scale: Sixty-five percent of the disputes were confined to a single village, almost 18 percent of the disputes were confined to villages within a single district, more than 5 percent involved villages in different districts, and other types accounted for more than 7 percent.

Form: Fifty-four percent of the disputes concerned arable land, 19 percent had to do with a loss of solidarity between the people and the cadres at the primary level, 19.5 percent concerned loss of solidarity among the people, and 7.5 percent were disputes within state organizations.

Nature: Conflicts concerning land (which accounted for most of the disputes), conflicts between the people and civil service organizations, conflicts involving a struggle for power and material rights, and conflicts that broke out suddenly.

Degree: Eleven percent of the conflicts have been very fierce, 49 percent have been tense, and 40 percent have been "smoldering."

The Reasons for the "Hot Spots"

There are three main reasons:

1. There are hot spots that have arisen because some of the leading and managerial cadres at the primary level are corrupt and have violated the ownership rights of the people. The majority of the party members and people detest these people and have denounced them and filed complaints against them, but their violations have not been investigated or dealt with promptly and resolutely, with the result that the masses do not understand things and lack confidence. In some places, the masses suspect that the district is covering up the mistakes of the primary-level cadres, which has made the situation even more complex and tense.

Making use of this situation, a number of evil elements, including dissatisfied and opportunistic cadres and party members have incited a number of people whose vigilance is poor to go to extremes in waging struggles, which has led to people violating the principles of the party and the laws of the state. Widely used forms include organizing suits in many places, making excessive demands, insulting the cadres and party members who have made mistakes based on "self-judgment," and taking people hostage. This has led to conflicts between a number of people and the primary- and district-level leadership organizations and the internal affairs, public security, control, and inspection sectors.

Looking at the "hot spots" of Nam Giang in Tho Xuan District, Tho Ngoc in Trieu Son District, Tien Loc in Hau Loc District, and Quang Loc in Quang Xuong District, it can be seen that they arose for the reasons mentioned above and exhibit the above manifestations. These are complex "hot spots" that all have "leaders" and "instigators." The "leader" may be a single individual or a group of people. These people have organized themselves, there are "leaders," there is a division of labor, and they have established illegal organizations using the words "open and democratic," "anti-corruption front," and "anti-negative association" in order to trick party members and the masses into following them. On the other hand, they also use people with police records and hoodlums to put pressure on the authorities and internal affairs sectors, terrorize and threaten those who are waging an honest struggle, spread false information, look for ways to neutralize the party and administrative apparatus, and force the districts and provinces to do what they want.

2. There are hot spots that have arisen because of disputes about administrative boundaries, land, markets, and so on between different hamlets and villages and, in some cases between two villages in different districts. Those disputes that have not been resolved promptly by the echelons and sectors with jurisdiction have resulted in spontaneous clashes between large numbers of people. At the same time, the authorities and bases have been put in a passive position and have not been able to control the situation. Or because they are biased, they have "followed" the masses. There have even been cases in which the militia and self-defense forces have been mobilized to attack people, which has had serious consequences and had a bad effect on hamlet and village order and security and internal security among the people. The problems between Quang Phuc and Quang Vong in Quang Xuong District, between Dong Quang and Dong Van in Dong Son District, between Quy Loc and Yen Tho in Thieu Yen District, and between Vinh Quang in Vinh Loc District and Cam Van in Cam Thuy District are all of this type. This type of "hot spot" usually arises in a relatively short period of time, but the consequences are immeasurable and this has caused many difficulties and problems in handling things using administrative and judicial measures. Furthermore, there are usually a large number of people participating at these "hot spots" and so it is difficult to determine the causes. Because of this, it is easy to forget about taking legal action against the criminals. As of 17 June 1992, Thanh Hoa had four such "hot spots." Even though the situation had been stabilized, the criminals had not been prosecuted.

3. Finally, there are hot spots that have arisen spontaneously for a variety of reasons. For example, some people have blocked and opposed those who are carrying out their public functions, and evil elements have "made a mountain out of a molehill" of this. This type of "hot spot" usually arises in places where order and security is a problem. At the same time, the local authorities and internal affairs organizations are weak and unable to handle specific situations, with the result that "hot spots" can arise and expand. Studying the hot spots: there was a fight between members of Unit 3 and Unit 9 in Tan Tuong Village, Tinh Gia District; there was a clash between Thanh Hoa City public security forces and the railroad station defense forces; there were two disturbances at the provincial people's court; and there was the case of people falsely accusing public security forces of beating someone to death and then stealing a public security vehicle and taking the body to the provincial CPV organization to jeer and incite people. All of these have a similar form.

Handling the "Hot Spots"—Initial lessons

Looking at the 120 hot spots in the past 5 years, as of 12 November 1993, Thanh Hoa had basically resolved more than 97 percent of the cases. Of these, almost 24 percent of the cases had been fully resolved, and almost 40 percent of the hot spots had been basically stabilized. The remaining cases are in the process of being concluded. To gain experience and preliminarily summarize the process of handling the hot spots, Thanh Hoa will organize a special symposium. But based on the successes and failures in dealing with a number of broad, complex, and serious hot spots, we can learn a number of lessons:

1. Discovering things early, finding the real reasons, and advancing ideological work:

The successes in handling the hot spots in Thanh Hoa show that there must be an attitude of fairness. Also, the situation must be evaluated carefully and objectively, and the true causes and nature of the matter must be found in order to have suitable means to deal with the matter. Whenever there are signs that a "hot spot" is arising or that a new hot spot has recently arisen, the organizations responsible must find out what the real reasons are and analyze the nature of the conflict. At the same time, they must organize work teams consisting of capable cadres who have great prestige, who are experienced in party work and mass mobilization, and who are skilled in dealing with various situations and skillfully insert them into the "hot spots." Through the highly trusted people on the spot, they must clarify the problems and, together with the people, discuss and resolve the issues and problems on the spot, including those of relatives of the targets, in order to "gradually reduce the temperature," "ease the situation," and "defuse the situation." In particular, in places where the masses can easily be incited and already have problems with the leaders, ideological work must be carried on resolutely and skillfully in order to create good public opinion. The more good pressure is applied by the people, the better the results will be. The hot spots in Vinh Ninh in Vinh Loc District, Tan Lap in Ba Thuoc District, and Dong Hung in Thanh Hoa City were dealt with mainly in this way. And based on this method, almost 25 percent of the hot spots in Thanh Hoa have been basically "defused."

2. Using economic measures in conjunction with improving the apparatus and cadre work:

Handling the "hot spots" will take time. This cannot be rushed. Things cannot be done in a subjective manner, and stages cannot be skipped. At the same time, things cannot be delayed, which would allow the situation to dray on. Reality shows that if such situations are allowed to drag on, efforts to resolve matters will encounter many complex difficulties. Thus, there are things that must be carried on tensely, especially tasks related to stabilizing life at the primary level, particularly economic life. For example, the "hot spots" that have difficulties concerning work formulas can be guided and given help in building a number of infrastructural and public welfare projects in order to involve the people in production and reduce their concerns.

On the other hand, tasks related to organizing and solidifying the apparatus and strengthening the cadres must be handled promptly, and those who have committed violations, particularly cadres and party members who have clearly committed violations and who no longer have the confidence of the people, must be dealt with, which includes taking legal action against them, recovering things and paying material damages (if any), and doing things openly before the people.

The experiences in handling the hot spots in Tho Ngoc in Trieu Son District, Nam Giang in Tho Xuan District, Quang Loc in Quang Xuong District, Nga Thach in Nga Son District, and a number of other complex spots in Tho Xuan and Cam Thuy show that this is a very important measure that is in accord with the legitimate demands of the cadres, party members, and masses and that manifests the strictness of the law. If these problems are solved well, there will no longer be any reasons that dissatisfied and extremist elements can use to complicate the situation.

3. Dealing with things promptly and resolutely from within:

Taking resolute action against cadres and party members who participate in the "hot spots" is both urgent and necessary in order to "set an example" for the people. This is very important for blocking and handling the "hot spots." The experiences in dealing with typical hot spots such as Tho Ngoc, Quang Loc, Nam Giang, and Nga Thach show this very clearly. For example, in the Tho Ngoc case, one person was disciplined and expelled from the party, three were given warnings, and the chairman of the village people's committee, the head of the village public security force, and the secretary of the village CPV committee were dismissed from office. In particular, Le Hong Bao, the cooperative director, was tried and sentenced to 5 years in prison. As a result, the problems there were basically solved, the situation at Tho Ngoc stabilized, and the village has continued to advance. When handling the hot spots in Quang Loc, Nam Giang, and Nga Thach, 29 party members there were disciplined. Following this, other hot spots declined in intensity, and this created a good tendency for handling other spots on a provincial scale.

Something that should be noted is that with respect to the "leaders," in general, an open attitude and flexible measures for dealing with them are required. There must be a dialogue. People must listen to their ideas, analyze things, and persuade them. At the same time, we must adhere to the principles and resolutely criticize their extremist actions that violate the law. The die-hard instigators and leaders must be differentiated from those who have been misled or used, with appropriate methods used to deal with each type of target.

Along with dealing with things promptly and resolutely from within, troublemakers and hoodlums and those who "grope for fish in muddy waters" must be resolutely suppressed in accord with the law. The sympathy and support of the people must be obtained, and spontaneous actions that cause trouble must definitely be avoided. This is a very important guideline for handling things. The five prison sentences meted out to the above targets at four "hot spots" (with the stiffest sentence being 12 years in prison and the lightest being 2 years) clearly affirms that "being strict both within and among the masses" has a great effect in dealing with the hot spots.

4. The independence of the bases must be strengthened, but the close leadership and guidance of higher echelons must be maintained.

In order to deal with the hot spots, the party committee echelons and authorities, from the primary to the district level, must do things actively and speedily under the close leadership and guidance of the provincial CPV committee and provincial people's committee. In particular, there must be a high degree of unanimity from top to bottom in determining the reasons for the rise of "hot spots" and formulating solutions. Simple, subjective, and quick methods and a desire to deal with things immediately using rigid methods must be opposed. On the other hand, rightist thinking and not daring to deal with things must be opposed, and the concept of relying on others must be opposed: the primary level waiting on the district, the districts waiting on the province, and the functional sectors shifting responsibility to each other. The methods used to deal with the hot spots must be synchronized. Educating, propagandizing, and mobilizing the masses must go hand in hand with solidifying the party and administrative organizations and dealing with things using administrative and judicial measures.

As for the complex "hot spots," particularly the burning and very tense hot spots, work groups or teams headed by a key leader must be formed and sent to the hot spots. They must have full power to deal with the situation, and they will be responsible to higher echelons for their actions. What must be emphasized is that enforcing the laws at the hot spots must be based above all on having accurate and timely information, serving as the staff for the leaders, and dealing effectively with situations on the spot swiftly and safely.

As for hot spots in the hamlets, the villages must handle things on their own, with the district monitoring things and providing help. When the hot spots are in the villages, the district must personally handle things, with the province monitoring things and providing help. Based on their functions and tasks, the committees and sectors at the provincial level must help the districts. The province must not do things in place of the districts, but it must not be lax in providing leadership and guidance or slight its responsibilities.

Proposals Based on Realities

From the realities in Thanh Hoa, in order to actively prevent hot spots from arising and to continue dealing effectively with those hot spots that have arisen with the aim of maintaining stability and promoting development from the primary level, I would like to propose the the following:

First, the central echelon should soon review the work of building and solidifying the bases and improving the quality of the ranks of cadres and party members. It should strengthen propaganda activities, give the cadres and people at the primary level an all-round education, particularly concerning legal matters, overcome the "illiteracy" concerning judicial knowledge, and standardize judicial knowledge for the key leaders and managers at the primary level. At the same time, the central echelon should soon review and learn the lessons in building models of organizations subordinate to the primary-level authorities (hamlet and village) and in regulating the activities of the hamlet and village heads so that these can be used on a nationwide scale.

Second, the central echelon should soon revise the laws and documents under the law to concretize dealing with the petitions and complaints of citizens. It must provide guidance in formulating concrete solutions based on the functions and powers of each echelon and sector with respect to the above tasks in order to ensure that the complaints of the people are dealt with effectively, promptly, and in accord with the law and in order to overcome the situation in which people simply try to shift the responsibility to someone else, which weakens the confidence of the masses.

Third, the central echelon should soon promulgate regulations in order to put an end to the confusion. These should deal with such things as, How should the internal affairs forces be used to deal with the hot spots? What should the contents of "martial law" orders be? And how should the mass means of information convey information to the hot spots in order to ensure accuracy and to prevent the enemy from making use of this and distorting the situation?

Party Members Expelled for Poor Conduct

BK1306082294 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 10 Jun 94

[Text] In implementing the party Central Committee's Third Plenum Resolution on renovating and revamping the party, party committee echelons in Ha Bac Province have satisfactorily screened party members to help them rectify shortcomings and mistakes. They also expelled from the party degenerated and deviant elements and those who violated discipline or acted at variance with party and state policies and lines.

So far, disciplinary measures have been taken against 6,000 party members, including 2,200 who were expelled from the party for poor conduct.

Energy Ministry Updates Powerline Status

BK1406053494 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] On 13 June, the Ministry of Energy made an announcement about putting into operation the north-south 500-kv powerline. The announcement reads in part as follows: The State Board of Review met on 4 June and concluded that the project had been completed in accordance with the plan approved for the first phase. The results of the test run indicate that all technical requirements set specifically for the project have been met. The powerline may be put into operation at a 500-kv power voltage. The Ministry of Energy is currently coordinating with the PPI-SECVI Consultant Company and the (Merland Guerrain Equipment Supply Company) in monitoring and rectifying the irregularities of the (PLC) Microwave Communications System and the (LSCB) Safeguard Signal and Command Conveying and Comparing System.

Australia

Foreign Minister Comments on North Korea

Urges UN To Leave Way Open

LD1206181094 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 1700 GMT 12 Jun 94

[Text] Australia's Foreign Minister, Gareth Evans, has urged the UN Security Council to leave the way open for North Korea to change its mind over international inspections of its nuclear facilities. While reaffirming Australia's willingness to abide by any decision the Security Council might take on sanctions, Senator Evans said in Manila that the situation would have to be handled delicately. Trevor Watson reports:

[Begin recording] [Watson] Senator Evans said he would deplore any decision that drove the North Koreans beyond the point of no return in their dealings with the International Atomic Energy Agency or the world community. Nobody, he says, knows if sanctions will do that or encourage the North to be more open in the future.

[Evans] Will it serve the purpose for keeping them committed in the future and to ensure that we at least know there won't be diversion of nuclear material in the future, or will it be the trigger which in fact pushes them over the brink to walk away from the Nonproliferation Treaty altogether? [end recording]

Urges World To Be Careful

BK1306054094 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] The Australian foreign minister, Senator Gareth Evans, has urged the United Nations Security Council to be careful about any decision directed at North Korea. Speaking in Manila, Senator Evans said the situation needs to be handled delicately. Trevor Watson reports.

[Begin Watson recording] Senator Evans said he would deplore any decision that drives the North Koreans beyond the point of no return in their dealings with the International Atomic Energy Agency or the world community. Nobody, he said, knows if sanctions will do that or encourage the North to be more open in the future.

[Evans] Will it serve the purpose of keeping them committed in the future to ensure that we at least know there won't be diversion of nuclear material in the future, or we would be the trigger which in fact pushes them over the brink to walk away from the non-proliferation treaty all together. [end recording]

Employment Minister Begins Asian Tour

BK1206113194 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 1100 GMT 12 Jun 94

[Text] Australia's employment minister, Simon Crean, arrives in Vietnam shortly on the first leg of a trip to Asia aimed at strengthening trade links with the region. In Hanoi, Mr. Crean will sign a memorandum of understanding with the government as the first step in Australian business setting up cooperative projects providing high quality education and training. And in Indonesia, Mr. Crean will be part of Australia's largest ever trade and cultural promotion in the region.

During his Malaysian stopover, Mr. Crean will meet senior officials to discuss priority areas for cooperation in vocational education and training.

New Data Shows Growth in Trade With Asia

BK2705093894 Hong Kong AFP in English 0800 GMT 27 May 94

[Text] Sydney, May 27 (AFP)—Australian trade with Asia continued its rapid growth of previous years in 1993 as exports to the region surged nine percent to 40 billion dollars (29 billion US), according to official data released Friday.

A six-monthly trade analysis by the Department of Foreign Affairs also showed a 17.5 percent rise in exports of elaborately transformed manufactures (ETMs) to the world, dominated by a 30 percent increase to Asia.

Japan remained Australia's largest export market, accounting for almost a quarter of total merchandise exports worth 15.6 billion dollars.

At the same time, Australia imported 11.8 billion dollars worth of goods from Japan, resulting in a trade surplus of 3.8 billion dollars.

Australia's total merchandise trade rose by 10 percent in current dollar terms to 125 billion dollars, with eight percent export growth and a 12 percent increase in imports, the report said.

Coal remained the biggest commodity export, representing 12.3 percent of Australia's total merchandise exports.

"While merchandise trade recorded another surplus—454 million in 1993—the relative strength of imports has reduced it substantially from the high of four billion dollars in 1991 and the 1992 level of nearly three billion dollars," the report said.

It attributed the fall in the surplus to a decline in the terms of trade, associated with continued weakness in world commodity prices, increased demand for imports flowing from the relatively strong@rate of domestic recovery and subdued economic activity in a number of key export markets.

Exports to the United States dropped in 1993 by about one percent, while US imports grew by seven percent, increasing the trade surplus in favour of the United States to 8.1 billion dollars.

During the same period exports to European Union countries also fell by three percent while imports from the EU grew by eight percent, the trade imbalance worsening for Australia to 6.4 billion dollars.

A statement released by Trade Minister Bob McMullan's office said the figures clearly indicated the government's closer integration with Asia was paying dividends in the form of increased export earnings.

Exports to the East Asia region, including Japan, Korea, China, Hong Kong and Taiwan, and the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN)—Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, the Philippines and Thailand—increased by eight percent to 37 billion dollars.

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